

For him: Just arrived, beautiful...
For her: From the new collection...
For him: Just arrived, beautiful...
For her: From the new collection...



for the Connoisseur...
allevé adam

THE WEATHER

Forecast: Partly cloudy to cloudy with probable scattered showers.

	Yesterday's Humidity	Yesterday's Min-Max	Today's Max
Jerusalem	34	6-22	19
Golan	36	6-21	18
Nahariya	48	8-26	21
Safed	41	7-18	15
Haifa Port	28	13-26	21
Tiberias	40	10-26	23
Nazareth	35	11-24	20
Afula	32	8-26	23
Shomron	29	12-23	18
Tel Aviv	46	12-26	21
B-G Airport	42	9-27	24
Jericho	30	10-31	27
Gaza	64	14-27	23
Beersheba	19	10-37	24
Eilat	19	10-32	23
Tiran Straits	21	20-30	26

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

The President, Prof. Ephraim Katzir, was yesterday given the freedom of Holon. He toured the town and talked with high school pupils.

Werner Braun, photographer, will speak on his recent visit to Russia at the weekly meeting of the Jerusalem Rotary Club at the YMCA at 1 o'clock today.

Rabbi Bernard Hoch, director of the Haifa Hillel Foundation, will speak, in English, on Jewish-Arab student relations at today's meeting of the Haifa Rotary Club, Nef Hotel, 1 o'clock.

ARRIVALS

Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Porter, Mr. and Mrs. John Fort and Lady Cohn from England, for the dedication of the Porter Israel Institute for politics and semantics during the ninth annual meeting of the Board of Governors of Tel Aviv University.

DEPARTURES

Nazi hunter Beate Klarsfeld, after a private visit during which she participated in Holocaust Day ceremonies.

Knesset committee tells army, TV to talk it over

By JUDY SIEGEL
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The tempest-in-a-teacup over censorship that began eight days ago between the IDF and the Broadcasting Authority continued to heat up yesterday despite an attempt by the Knesset Education Committee to bring the feuding sides together.

Committee chairman Avraham Katz had invited Chief of Staff Mordechai Gur and officials of the authority to a special session to iron out the dispute, which began last Tuesday with a walkout by Gur before the taping of an Independence Day Eve interview. The Chief of Staff had refused to appear because TV news director Dan Shilon would not allow pre-censorship of the interview by Defence Minister Shimon Peres. Gur also ordered the cancellation of a live TV broadcast of an entertainment event from an army base in the Golan.

Accompanied by an entourage of a dozen soldiers, Gur told Katz that he would not appear before the committee along with authority representatives. Leaving his assistants and the five top authority officials in the corridors, Gur repeated a position already announced by IDF spokesman Tat-Aluf Yael Ben-Forat that it has been long-standing policy that interviews with the chief of staff be reviewed before broadcast by the defence minister.

The entertainment show from the Golan was cancelled, he said, because the IDF had lost its faith in the authority over the incident. The TV officials — authority chairman Walter Eytan, TV director Arnon Zuckerman, assistant to the chairman Haim Shur, news director Shilon and spokesman Meshe Amirav — who had been cooling their heels in the Knesset corridors for nearly an hour then told the committee (after Gur had left) that the matter was one of principle. TV must preserve its autonomy, said Shilon, and could not allow any political official to censor its broadcasts.

Most of the committee members supported Gur's decision to walk out of the taping, but most opposed his order to cancel the entertainment show. Two MKs, however, lambasted the committee chairman for convening the session, arguing that it would just turn into a political debate.

In an official release, the committee expressed its "sorrow" over the cancellation of the two shows and asked both parties to reach an agreement on censorship practices.

Meanwhile, authority spokesman Amirav said the TV is "ready tomorrow" to sit with IDF representatives to solve the dispute.

IDF spokesman Ben-Perat, however, told The Jerusalem Post that he is waiting until a decision is made by the Press Council, which has been sent a 22-page complaint against the authority by the chief of staff.

Amirav countered that the authority is not a member of the Press Council, and that it wants direct talks with the IDF to work out a solution.

A new rift, meanwhile, arose from the old one. Galiel Zahal director Mordechai Naor postponed a live broadcast scheduled for last night in which listeners were to have asked TV director Zuckerman and Hebrew programmes director Mordechai Kirschbaum questions about TV.

Despite reports yesterday that Naor had been asked to postpone it by his superior (the IDF education officer), Naor told The Post he had made the decision on his own. "It was to be a live broadcast, and since the matter is so sensitive, I preferred that the dispute between TV and the IDF not be raised on the air."

Authority chairman Eytan, following a phone conversation with Naor, released to the press the contents of a letter he sent to Naor, in which he pointed out that civilian programmes on Galiel Zahal are under the aegis of the authority's board of directors. "The board did not give you permission to cancel the participation of Zuckerman in the programme," he wrote.

Naor told The Post that he was "greatly disturbed" to hear of the contents of the letter from reporters. He had not as yet received it. He asserted that he has never had to turn to the board of directors for permission to cancel a Galiel Zahal show.

JAFFA MACCAHI yesterday heat Netanya Maccabi 3-1 in a friendly soccer match inaugurating the Jaffa club's stadium. Scorers were Lavie for Netanya in the ninth minute; and, for Jaffa, Aroutte, 49th, Leen, 55th, and Blum, 70th.



THE DUKE of Devonshire signs autographs at yesterday's opening of the Israel Museum of a display of 51 drawings from his Chatsworth Collection of Old Masters. British Ambassador John Maben addressed the opening ceremony, with the duke and mayor Teddy Kollek. The exhibition, including drawings by Rembrandt, Holbein, da Vinci and Raphael, will remain open for three months.

Prostitutes should not be persecuted, law should be eased, c'ttee recommends

By HAIM SHAPIRO
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Prostitution should be discouraged, but an adult who wishes to follow this calling should be allowed to do so discreetly and without persecution.

This was the essence of the report submitted yesterday by the committee to study the problem, headed by Tel Aviv District Court Judge Hadassa Ben-Itz.

Among its recommendations to the Justice Minister, who appointed the committee two years ago, were suggestions that the law be amended to permit individual prostitutes to work in flats or hotel rooms.

The committee would also allow modest advertisements and soliciting in bars, coffee shops and nightclubs — if the owner agreed.

On the other hand, it suggested increasing the punishment for pimping and those who trap girls into prostitution.

However, the report noted that most prostitutes joined the profession of their own free will.

The committee also found that prostitutes made far more money than they could in any other calling. Streetwalkers make IL50 to IL70 per client, with an average of 15 to 20 meetings a night. Those in hotels receive IL50 to IL200 from each of two or three customers a night; and some call girls make up to IL10,000 a month, from 10 to 15 meetings.

The report noted that, in a random sample, some 40 per cent of the prostitutes examined were suffering from, or had suffered from venereal disease. To counter this danger, the committee recommended easily accessible, free, anonymous clinics for treatment of V.D.

Favourable terms for next F-15s

Post Military Correspondent

A highly placed defence source confirmed yesterday that the army is negotiating the purchase of 25 more F-15 air superiority fighters from the U.S. The report of the pending deal was first carried by The Jerusalem Post.

There were continued reports from Washington yesterday that McDonnell Douglas, the manufacturer of the plane, was offering extremely attractive terms of payment for the additional 25 aircraft.

Carter's Geneva stand

(Continued from page one)

which have centred on the question of Palestinian representation at the Geneva conference, had gone "just fine — one of the most productive and enjoyable visits we've had." He added that he has found "a strong desire among all the leaders I've met so far to marshal an extraordinary effort" for peace.

Carter spoke here as it was confirmed by informed sources that Israeli Foreign Minister Yigal Allon will be meeting with Secretary of State Vance in London next month — following the talks in Geneva between Carter and Syrian President Assad — to continue discussions on how to reconvene the Geneva conference this year.

Israeli officials have long been skeptical about the prospects of reconvening Geneva without proper advance preparation.

Carter's apparent change in attitude about Geneva seems also to have been influenced somewhat by influential State Department officials, who have long recommended to the President that the U.S. retain both options for as long as possible — Geneva as well as step-by-step negotiations. These State Department officials, experienced in Middle East diplomacy, have recognized the dangers of going to Geneva in search of an overall settlement unprepared.

But National Security Adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski and other U.S. officials have been urging the President to push for a comprehensive settlement at Geneva this year, along the lines of the December, 1976, Brookings Institution study on the Middle East.

Sources here speculated that the President has been slowly shifting his view on Geneva as he learns of the enormous difficulties involved.

During the past few days, there have been several press reports from American reporters in Israel highlighting Israel's fear of a drift in U.S. Middle East policy away from the Israeli position, especially as it concerns final borders and Palestinians.

Yesterday, similar Jerusalem-dated dispatches were published in "The Washington Post" and "The New York Times," noting Israel's concern about Carter's emerging positions. Sources here speculated that these reports may be affecting the President's perception of the Middle East conflict because he does not want to appear as "anti-Israeli."

Late last night, Hussell told reporters that he still supports his idea, proposed a few years ago, of a

federation between the West and Jordan. He said this was possible, but he insisted that Palestinians living in the West Bank and Gaza Strip have a determination in deciding future.

He rejected the proposal of a Palestinian "homeland" established on the east bank of the Jordan. He said the question of Palestinian participation at the Geneva conference was a "side issue," the real problem remaining Israel's refusal to agree to withdraw from the occupied territories, including East Jerusalem.

At one point, he seemed to say that the PLO and Israel reach each other simultaneously, that it would be "unfair to expect PLO to take that step before rights of the Palestinians have been affirmed."

On Monday evening, Carter Hussein met for more than an hour privately, upstairs at the House, following a working day. Yesterday morning, they continued their talks for another 70 minutes in the cabinet room.

During a briefing yesterday, reporters, White House spokes Jody Powell said that America's "ultimate" goal has always been to reach an overall settlement. He acknowledged that the earlier statement on going to Geneva prepared must have been "a bit of a misstatement." He declined to speculate on what the President told him.

Powell said that the Administration has believed that this was a year for an overall settlement because of a rare coincidence of circumstances, which indicated a prospect for success. He said it seems to be a mutual desire for peace on both sides, and expressed the hope that the same might not be next year.

At one point during the briefing, Israeli reporter asked a spokesman about the U.S. position regarding sovereignty over the Golan Heights. Powell, however, said that the State Department and National Security Council officials would not come forward with a position.

Hussell has maintained that October, 1974, Rabat Arab summit conference decision proclaiming the PLO the representative of the Bank Palestinians removed Jewish sovereignty over the territory.

A State Department official complained to the Israeli representative about trying to "embarrass" White House spokesmen with a question.

Peres pounds political pavements

By ABRAHAM KARINOVICH
Jerusalem Post Reporter

"Does your wife have a bank account in New York?" the Katamon youth asked Shimon Peres yesterday, as he walked through the city.

"No, in Katamon," said the acting spokesman, as Peres walked through the city.

Peres was making his first campaign appearance in Katamon since assuming the mantle of Labour Party leadership. He found the residents friendly but not particularly awed.

Peres spent two hours visiting apartments in some of the most densely populated neighbourhoods in the city — neighbourhoods where Labour is weak. He went, not to meet the man in the street, but to meet local party workers.

"Our object is to give a push to our party activists," said Uzi Baram, party secretary in Jerusalem. "He'll meet the people when he tours the city centre in another 10 days."

Eleven times Peres was led into apartments crowded with local supporters, sometimes after a climb of three or four storeys. Eleven times he sat at the head of a table laden with drink and cakes. Eleven times he expressed his aspirations for a strong and proud country and for a flourishing Jerusalem. Eleven times he raised a glass of soft drink and toasted "lehayyim."

Flanking him were the party's two biggest guns in Jerusalem — Mayor Teddy Kollek and Knesset Member Yitzhak Navon, whose popularity, the party hoped, would help Peres. Also present was Deputy Mayor Zvi Rosen, a stalwart of the Rumanian community which is well represented in the Kiryat Yovel, Kiryat Ganim and Kiryat Me'eabim quarters, which the Peres party visited after Katamon.

Peres encountered the general public, congregated at the building entrance, as he made his way in to meet the party faithful. He took the opportunity to plunge into the crowd and press every hand available.

It was in such a form that he encountered the Katamon youth who asked about the bank account in a manner that was more good-natured than cheeky.

"It's all to get elected," said another young man, watching the flood of politicians passing by. "No harm done."

A truck driver, watching the scene from his parked vehicle said, to no one in particular, "American style, eh?"

In the evening, Peres, meeting with party workers from all parts of the city in Mitchell Hall, said he favoured a 10 per cent growth rate for Jerusalem. (Since the Six Day War, the city has grown at an annual rate of something under 4 per cent.) He said he would make ally to Jerusalem a major theme as prime minister. The city, he said, had meaning to Jews whether they lived in Marrakesh or San Francisco.

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See how they run

By Asher Wallfish

MAKE A NOTE of the date: May 12. Make a note of the venue: Israel TV. Make a note of the show: Shimon Peres, top man in the Alignment, versus Menachem Begin, top man in the Likud. The show will last 40 minutes, and the contestants are pretty evenly matched.

Peres told a delegation of the Association of Artisans and Small Businessmen that he hoped Adi Amichai, MK, would be the next chairman of the Knesset Finance Committee. If the law is changed to permit ministers to resign their Knesset seats as long as they are in the cabinet — and get them back if they quit the cabinet — Peres said, the businessman's representative, MK Ya'acov Frank (number 48 on the Alignment list), would definitely get into the Knesset.

Zevulun Hammer (National Religious Party) told party youth in Tel Aviv that, since the Likud alone would not be able to form the next government, it was up to the NRP to emerge strong from the elections and become a central force in the next government.

The NRP has got Prof. Amnon Rubinstein, a leading figure in the Democratic Movement for Change, in its sights, on the grounds that he is deliberately trying to cancel his anti-religious views, so that his DMC will collect orthodox votes. "We have collected all Rubinstein's attacks on religion and on the religious community. We shall publish them in a 'white paper' in thousands of copies," the NRP announced.

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Defence Minister Shimon Peres, the Alignment candidate for the premiership, on a hand-shaking tour of Jerusalem's Katamonim yesterday.

Comptroller saved IL30,000 by using smaller type face

By JUDY SIEGEL
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The state comptroller's 27th annual report being made public today is a half-inch narrower than its predecessor, with 916 pages compared to 1,200.

But the new, violet-and-black-covered volume, though shorter than that of 1976, is not necessarily sweeter. It, too, is replete with reports of duplication, waste, ineptitude and misdealing in the governmental and public bodies under scrutiny.

The state comptroller's office decided to have the heavy tome printed in smaller "eight-point" type (instead of "10-point"), as an example of frugality to all. Printing fewer pages, according to the office, saved the state about IL30,000.

About 400 civil servants — the professional staff of the state comptroller's office — are dispersed

among the various bodies coming under the comptroller's purview: all ministries, government institutions and corporations, as well as those supported by the government.

Comptroller Yitzhak Nebenzahl noted in the preface to his report that this is the first time it is being published during a pre-election period. Since the Knesset is not in session, a special arrangement was made for each Knesset member to receive a copy of the volume at home.

State control and regular publication of the report "are among the foundations of our public life," Dr. Nebenzahl noted. The aim is an effective, economical and efficient administration that is based on law and in keeping with morality. Less damage results from the revelation of shortcomings than from allowing them to continue, the state comptroller maintained.</

Curfew in Nablus after Kahane riot

Jerusalem Post Reporter
NABLUS. — The security forces yesterday clamped a curfew on the city following riots over the Kahane's declared plan to hold a ceremony for "the return of Jews" to the town on May 6.
Kahane, leader of the Kach list in coming elections, has sent invitations to West Bank mayors and others to attend the ceremony in a Jewish quarter in Nablus, an ancient Israelite city of 100,000. He said he was launching a campaign to establish Jewish settlements in every Arab town in the aim of bringing peace to the region.
Kahane was recently barred from entering the area without a permit, making an attempt to call on Mayor Bassam Shakh's to argue his latest plans.
The security forces yesterday used gas to disperse stone-throwing mobs who took to the streets to test against Kahane's plans. Rioters, mainly Arabs, burned tires and stoned police and army patrols just as the curfew was imposed on the city. Some of the rioters used catapults, which became the vogue in West Bank.

Legal action possible over Dengoff job

By SARAH HONIG
Jerusalem Post Reporter
JERUSALEM. — The Ministry of Interior yesterday said it will take legal action over the employment of a Chinese national to the city if it refuses to ignore the ministry's work-stopping order.
The ministry ordered construction work on the face-lifting of the city to stop. The order, which was issued last week and demanded that the city's construction work be stopped, was issued by the ministry's director, Yehuda Leib Bialer. The order was issued after the ministry's director, Yehuda Leib Bialer, said that the city's construction work was a waste of money and that the city should be allowed to develop on its own.
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Questions Israel selections

A Namir MK yesterday asked Education Minister to explain the Israel Prize for design was awarded to two curators of the Israel Museum, Yona Fischer and Eva Cohen.
The minister's question before the Education Committee, it also demanded to know the names of the judges who had awarded the prize-winners.
The government communiqué made the award announcement but did not say what Namir's objections were.



THE YANKS ARE COMING. — The vanguard of the summer tourist influx has already arrived in Israel, as evidenced by this couple bedecked in the "Stars and Stripes" as they walk down a Tel Aviv thoroughfare yesterday. (Mike Goldberg)

Soviets want trade with Tel Aviv businessmen

Jerusalem Post Reporter
TEL AVIV. — An official Soviet trading company, Intorg, has offered to sell goods to Israel. This is believed to be the first time such a suggestion has been received from the Soviet Union since that country broke off diplomatic relations with Israel following the Six Day War of 1967.
Zvi Amit, director of the Tel Aviv Chamber of Commerce, yesterday told *The Jerusalem Post* that the offer was made to the chamber in a letter, dated April 19, written in French and mailed from the Intorg office in Paris.
The company wants the chamber to help it find potential buyers for printing equipment, wood pulp for

newsprint and other types of paper, finished paper goods, and printing ink.
The offer does not mention prices, quantities, delivery schedules, method of shipping, or how payment is to be made.
Amit noted that since the rupture in diplomatic relations, Israel has signed several trade agreements with Rumania and Hungary. Some of the goods sent to these East Bloc countries may have reached the Soviet Union.
"We will do everything possible to see that the Soviet offer gets a favourable reception," Amit said.
During the day, several importers called the chamber for more information.

Inferior materials made roof collapse

RISHON LEZION. — The roof of a building under construction that collapsed on March 28, killing two people and injuring three others, fell in because unsuitable materials were used in construction, a committee that investigated the accident reported this week.
The committee, composed of engineers and representatives of the Labour Ministry, said that the roof supports were made of wood instead of metal pipes and that rope was

used instead of steel cable for binding purposes.
The committee pointed out that certain subcontractors use these inferior materials in building roofs up to three metres above the ground.
When the roof is over five metres high, such as the one that collapsed, the subcontractors should have been doubly careful, the committee said.
The committee believes that the immediate cause of the collapse was the vibration of a machine that mixed the concrete poured onto the roof.

Air Force chief testifies against man he stopped for 'crazy driving'

TEL AVIV (Jtm). — Air Force commander Aluf Elyanin Peled yesterday testified as a prosecution witness in Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court against a student whom he had stopped because of his "crazy driving."
Peled told the magistrate that, while travelling with his driver from Ramat Hasharon to Netanya last January, he saw a car speeding and wildly overtaking. "Seeing his crazy driving," Peled decided to stop the car. Peled said he chased the car to the Kfar Shmaryahu junction, where the car, driven by student Alexander Spector, turned into the village against a red light. Peled waited at the junction and, when Spector left the village, the Air Force commander stopped him and demanded he identify himself.
Spector, Peled said, refused to identify himself, saying he would do so only to a policeman. Peled then accompanied Spector to the Netanya police station, where Spector identified himself and Peled gave a state-

ment.
Peled said that, after the incident, Spector published an article about him in "Ha'olam Hazeh." From the article, Peled said, "I learned that I am a wild, dissolute character and that I was picking on the youth (Spector) because one of my secretaries was once his girlfriend."
Spector's trial was adjourned until next month.

Disabled veterans conference opens

The Disabled Veterans Organization opens its annual conference today at Beit Kay, the army convalescent home in Nahariya.
Defence Minister Shimon Peres will take part in the opening ceremony. The conference, which represents the 23,000 disabled veterans from all of Israel's wars and pre-state struggles, will decide on ways to promote better rehabilitation for disabled veterans.

Israeli study shows HIAS helps increase Soviet dropout rate

By JUDY SIEGEL
Jerusalem Post Reporter
Russian Jews are nevertheless continuing to apply for exit visas. Of 329,000 such requests since November 1968, a full 194,000 were refused and the Jews are still waiting.
It is easier for a Jew to leave certain regions than others. About 82 per cent of the applications from Lithuanian Jews have been approved, and the area has been supplied of about 41 per cent of its Jews as a result. About half of all Georgian Jewry have emigrated. But only 1.9 per cent of Jews living in the Russian Soviet Republic have been allowed to leave.
At the executive meeting it was also revealed that, despite the menacing atmosphere in the Soviet Jewish community, the authorities allowed Moscow scientists to hold a seminar on April 19 which included the participation of 10 American scientists who had arrived specially for the event.
New York metropolitan-area Jews will assemble on Sunday for the traditional march for Soviet Jewry. Over 150,000 are expected.
In London, the Archbishop of York, Dr. Stuart Blanch, will preside at a conference on Soviet Jewry today to

be attended by more than 60 clergymen of the Church of England, the Roman Catholic Church and the free churches, JTA reported yesterday.
Sarah Honig reports:
Prisoner of Zion Iosif Begun is on a hunger strike to protest the decision of Soviet authorities to try him on the charge of "parasitism" according to information received in Tel Aviv. The trial is to open on May 6.
It is not known when Begun started his hunger strike.
Begun, a scientist, was dismissed from his post when he applied to go to Israel, and has been supporting himself by giving private Hebrew lessons. The authorities would not allow him to hold a regular job and do not recognize the teaching of Hebrew as gainful employment.
He is being prosecuted for being unemployed. If convicted, he could be sentenced to up to six years in prison or exile.
Meanwhile, Natalia Shebaransky, wife of imprisoned Soviet activist Anatoly Shebaransky, left for Strasbourg yesterday to lobby European parliamentarians over the fate of her husband. The Council of Europe is meeting there.

Professionals will settle at Mt. Meron

Jerusalem Post Reporter
A settlement of young professionals will open at the foot of Mt. Meron in Galilee by the end of this year with a first group of 80 social workers, teachers and community workers.
The settlement was discussed yesterday at the fifth annual meeting of the Israel Zionist Council, which is helping to organize it. The topic of the meeting in Beit Shemesh was "development towns and disadvantaged neighbourhoods."
The settlement is being organized by the Zionist Council, which is helping to organize it. The topic of the meeting in Beit Shemesh was "development towns and disadvantaged neighbourhoods."
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Students abroad permitted to hold currency accounts

TEL AVIV. — Israeli students studying abroad should not fear being interrogated or arrested for holding foreign currency accounts when they return home for summer vacations, according to Nehemiah Weisenstern of the Finance Ministry's foreign exchange department.
He told *The Jerusalem Post* that such students — many of whom undoubtedly have bank accounts abroad — are allowed to spend up to three months in Israel without reporting their accounts to the proper authorities.
Weisenstern added that other Israelis (not students), who are legally abroad and who return for short visits, will not be questioned.
Avraham Ben-Yaacov, secretary of the Council for Higher Education, estimated that there are 4,500 to 5,000 Israeli students studying abroad in recognized institutions of higher learning. Of these, 2,250 receive monthly grants of \$250 from the

Israeli authorities if they study in Europe, and a bit more if they study in the U.S. These sums are often transferred directly abroad to the bank accounts of the students, he said.
Another source said there are an estimated 250,000 Israelis with "good Israeli passports" living abroad. Most are adults, and it is believed that all have bank accounts where they live.

French group inspect Jezreel Valley town

Jerusalem Post Reporter
MIGDAL HA'EMEK. — A group of 45 men from France arrived here yesterday to study the possibilities for bringing their families to settle here. Most of them are in their twenties and have two or three children, although some are still single.
They are the first group in a large project prepared by a local resident, Shoshana Amichay, who had been sent to France under the auspices of the Jewish Agency and the Galilee Development Council.
They will stay for a week, inspecting the homes prepared for them and visiting the work places where jobs are available. They include craftsmen, skilled workers, and some with academic qualifications.

Two children and Fagin' arrested

TEL AVIV. — A boy of 11 and a 14-year-old girl, escapees from a children's home, have been arrested for pickpocketing and purse-snatching. Also in police hands is a man of 25 accused of having been their "Fagin," sending them out on their nefarious excursions.
Among the children's alleged habits was calling at houses and asking for a glass of water; they would then rob the kind householder of any valuables lying around. (Jtm)

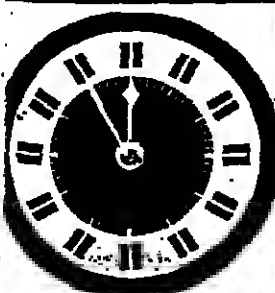
Schools open on May Day

Schools will be open on Sunday, May 1, but parents can have their children excused on the day, the Education Ministry announced Monday.
In its guidelines, the ministry said that schools and kindergartens are to hold no May Day celebrations or processions, and that no flag of any kind is to be flown.
Parents and teachers — who wish to be excused for the day must give

prior written notice.
In Tel Aviv, four youth movements announced Monday that they are reviving the May Day parade, discontinued some years ago. The procession is to leave from the Tel Aviv Museum parking lot at 4:30 and march via Shaul Hamelech and Arlosoroff to Hietadru head-quarters. There, at 6:30, Hietadru Secretary-General Yoram Meshel will address the throng.

The Israel Institute of Petroleum and Energy Advanced Seminar on Oil Economics

Session 6
announces a series of lectures by
Dr. M. Lipton
Vice President of Walter Levy Corporation
which will take place:
Tomorrow, Thursday, April 28, 1977 at 3 p.m. —
OPEC and the Energy Problems of the U.S.
and on Thursday, May 5, 1977 at 3 p.m. —
The Political Economics of Energy in the U.S.
The lectures will take place at the auditorium of the School of Petroleum Sciences, 26 Rehov Ha'universita, Tel Aviv.
Members of the Petroleum and Energy Industry are invited.



Time For A Change

When you vote for the Democratic Movement for Change on May 17 you will be voting for an economic programme based on:

1. Reducing the country's disastrously high rate of inflation by cutting down on the government expenditure that is fanning the flames of inflation.
2. Eliminating the government red tape that stifles initiative and enterprise.
3. Establishing a clear system of economic priorities, with preference to production over services, to increasing exports over raising living standards.
4. Stopping strikes by ending the uncontrolled inflation and the punitive taxation which spur labour unrest, and by instituting compulsory arbitration in essential services.

WE HAVE THE PROGRAMME AND THE LEADERS TO CREATE A BETTER ISRAEL!

For the first time in Israel's history there is a real chance of a change! Don't let it slip by!

DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENT FOR CHANGE

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• Fully indexed.
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"WHOLE COFFEE"



Instant Coffee @110 Whole Milk muva000
Test the taste for yourself - free at all self-service food markets!

Anti-gov't guerrillas said pressing Angola

LISBON (UPI). — Western intelligence reports indicated yesterday that pro-western guerrillas have gained control of large chunks of Angola, hotting up government forces and their Cuban allies in the town.

The sources estimated that Angolan President Agostinho Neto and his Marxist-oriented government could not survive without the backing of Cuban troops and Soviet advisers.

Ethiopians kill two Eritreans in hijack attempt

ADDIS ABABA (AP). — Two men died in a shootout with security guards on board an Ethiopian Airlines domestic flight during an attempted hijack, the Ethiopian "Herald" reported yesterday.

The government-controlled newspaper said members of the secessionist Eritrean Liberation Front tried to hijack the aircraft on Monday. The shots followed a struggle in which the captain of the DC-3 flight between Makele and Gondar in central Ethiopia wrestled with one of the hijackers in the plane's cockpit, the "Herald" said.

Several passengers were being treated in hospital for wounds received in the struggle, the paper said.

The captain said one of the hijackers entered the cockpit shortly after takeoff from Makele and ordered him to fly to Saudi Arabia. The captain said he then made a sharp mid-air turn, rocking the plane violently. This threw the hijacker off balance, whereupon the captain pounced on him and wrestled him to the floor.

An armed security guard rushing to the captain's aid was intercepted by a second hijacker who fired at him, said the newspaper. But a second security guard made it to the cockpit and killed the hijacker wrestling with the pilot.

Oil spill seen as major issue in Norway poll

STAVANGER, Norway (AP). — The team of American experts seeking to cap a runaway oil well in the North Sea yesterday decided to postpone the operation one more day in order to lift more equipment onto the rig.

Meanwhile, the Norwegian Government appointed a commission to investigate the blowout in Norway's offshore Ekofisk oil field.

The blowout is developing into a major issue for the fall general election, and oil companies are worried that the minority Labour government would cancel plans for test drilling off northern Norway, which is to begin next year.

Since the well blew last Friday, the rig has been spewing about 4 million litres a day into the sea, forming a slick 10 km. wide and 30 km. long.

At current oil prices, the well is throwing away about \$300,000 worth of crude a day.

The two American experts, Boots Hansen and Richard Hattenger of the team of Texas oilfield firefighter Red Adair, made the decision to postpone capping operations after boarding the rig for the third time since they arrived on the scene last Saturday.

"We still feel confident the leakage can be closed fast, as soon as all equipment is available and the work can begin, maybe within the next 24 hours," said Dag Hansen, spokesman for the Norwegian Oil Directorate. "The work itself can be done pretty fast, in one or two days."

Dutch oil experts who surveyed the slick said they felt sure the spilled oil would break down before reaching coastlines if the blowout killers could close the leakage this week.

Red Sea security

CAIRO (UPI). — Egyptian and Sudanese military commanders drew up plans for ensuring security of the Red Sea during a three-day conference which ended on Monday.

Gen. Mohammed Ali Fahmy, chief of staff of the Egyptian Armed Forces, said.

The conference also worked out details of possible Egyptian assistance to Sudan in case the latter faced a foreign aggression, he said.



British Foreign Secretary David Owen, left, exchanges pleasantries with his Egyptian counterpart, Ismail Fahmy, before sitting down to talks in Cairo.

Owen believes Israel-Arab talks possible this year

CAIRO (UPI). — British Foreign Secretary David Owen ended a two-day visit to Egypt yesterday, declaring Arab-Israeli peace talks were possible this year and a transition to black majority rule in Rhodesia could be achieved in 1978.

Owen said Egyptian-Israeli relations were good and that he hoped they were better now after his meeting with President Anwar Sadat.

Addressing a news conference before departing for Damascus, Owen said his talks with Sadat and Foreign Minister Ismail Fahmy covered "a wide range of problems," including the Middle East conflict, the situation in Africa, and Egyptian-British relations.

Asked whether Arab-Israeli peace talks could be resumed at Geneva this year, Owen said: "I think it is possible, but we should not get attached to it very much." He said the problem is complicated "and views are not identical, but progress is possible."

It is up to Middle East nations to decide if they wanted Britain to assist in promoting a settlement, he said, emphasizing that the U.S. should play the key role.

In an interview with the semi-official newspaper "Al-Ahram," Owen said that Britain supported the participation of Palestinian representatives at any resumption of the Geneva conference.

But he evaded a direct answer when asked whether Britain agreed to the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) taking part in the conference.

"We believe that the representative of the Palestinian people should participate in the negotiations, and we hope a formula will be reached to make that possible," he said.

Owen told the newspaper that Britain was opposed to "the continuing Israeli occupation of Arab lands."

"Britain is also opposed to any unilateral changes in the status quo of Jerusalem," he added.

Meanwhile, in Paris, Egyptian Vice-President Hosni Mubarak said that U.S. President Carter would like the Geneva talks to resume "in the second half of this year, after the Israeli elections."

But Mubarak added that both Carter and Sadat were convinced of the need for "much more preparation" so the talks could start with concrete matters, "not ceremony."

CIA claims Russia has water in its oil wells

WASHINGTON. — One reason for the Central Intelligence Agency's pessimistic assessment of world oil reserves is that Russia has a problem with water in its wells, agency director Stansfield Turner told Congress on Monday.

Turner was one of five administration officials dispatched to Capitol Hill for further explanation of President Carter's energy programme, which drew to a considerable extent on the CIA's survey of the global petroleum situation.

The new CIA chief gave the House of Representatives energy subcommittee some details not included in the report Carter cited, including a finding that pumping problems, not just depletion, will cause demand to outrun supplies by 1985.

Turner said some of the CIA's information was drawn from "highly sensitive intelligence sources," and that the agency's gloomy view "is based on our estimate that the USSR will change from an exporter to a substantial importer of oil in the early 1980s."

The CIA report forecast that the Soviet Union and East Europe would need to import between 3.5m. and 4m. barrels a day by the early 1980s, instead of exporting at the current rate of a million barrels a day.

"The Soviets have a problem, production in that those fields is account for the bulk of Soviet production are experiencing severe water encroachment," he said, a result, increasingly large quantities of water must be lifted for each barrel of oil produced.

The Russians are pushing for maximum production, but "even at maximum effort, the Soviets will come close to the 1980 goal... called for by their current five-year plan," he said.

"We don't see the capability of lifting enough oil on line between 1980 and 1985," said Turner.

He said oil output in the Soviet Union would soon peak at about 10 million barrels a day, possibly as early as next year. Current Soviet production is about 10.5 million barrels a day.

(UPI, Reuters)

Actress tells London court of blackmail and murder plot

LONDON (Reuters). — An unemployed British actress on Monday described a Lebanese, who is alleged to have plotted to blackmail the Anglo-American Corporation of South Africa and threatened to kill its chairman, Sir Philip Oppenheimer, as "charming and friendly."

Jacqueline Holborow, 30, told the Central Criminal Court here of a visit she made to Spain to meet "Flash Red" or "Pope" Kamil, a former informant employed by the gold and diamond-mining corporation, in connection with illicit diamond buying.

Holborow and four others are accused of plotting with Kamil to extort one million sterling from the corporation. Three of them are also charged with threatening to kill members of the Oppenheimer family. All five have pleaded not guilty to the charges.

Kamil told her he had been cheated out of money but did not specify the sum. "He was talking about diamonds, a hijack and that he was a girl called Ingrid who had been kidnapped," Miss Holborow said.

"I gather that was by American Security, but I don't know."

"He said he had originally intended to hijack an aircraft carrying stolen or illicit diamonds but was too difficult so he decided to kidnap a member of the Oppenheimer family."

She added: "He was to hold a person against the release of the diamonds but there had been a complication. He thought he had been set up and ended up hijacking an airplane in turn ended up in Malawi."

In 1972, Kamil was jailed in Malawi for hijacking an aircraft, this wrongly that an Oppenheimer aboard.

Argentine Jews see anti-Semitism in probe of dead financier

BUENOS AIRES (AP). — Leaders of the Argentine Jewish community are concerned that a major political and financial scandal rocking Argentina may have anti-Semitic overtones.

The scandal stems from a wide-ranging military government probe into the financial affairs of an Argentine Jewish banker, David Graiver, reported killed in a Mexican plane crash last August 7.

Allegations here are that former high Peronist officials and other personalities as well as Peronist-linked leftist guerrillas were linked to Graiver financially.

"So far we can't honestly say that there is a real anti-Semitic connection in the case, but we certainly are worried because many of those allegedly implicated in the scandal and who are already under arrest are Jews," a top Jewish leader said on Monday in an interview. The leader said he did not want to be identified because he feared retaliation, but he said that if community leaders find hard evidence of anti-Semitism they will make a public statement.

Another Jewish leader said he thought there may be no anti-Semitism behind the probe, but he feared that anti-Semitic groups may capitalize on it.

A cartoon published in the latest issue of the Argentine newsmagazine "La Semana" brought an editorial protest from the newspaper "La Opinion" and anger from Jewish leaders.

The cartoon depicts a large-nosed man in a beard and homburg hat, who is answering the phone in his luxurious mansion, as the maid puts his bags into a limousine. He holds an air ticket and overcoat in his hands.

"I can't talk now," the man says into the phone, obviously in a hurry to leave, "the situation is grave, very grave."

The 600,000-strong Jewish community here, the largest in the western hemisphere outside the U.S., is worried that the situation may lead to new violence against Jewish concerns. Eight months ago several Jewish shops and synagogues were bombed and attacked with machinegun fire, and a neo-Nazi group calling itself National Socialist Front claimed responsibility.

The government has said there is no anti-Semitism in the probe, and official sources say those involved coincidentally happen to be Jews.

At least 19 persons, including Graiver's father — a Polish Jewish immigrant — his widow, a brother, an uncle and an aunt, as well as the Jewish editor of the liberal Buenos Aires newspaper "La Opinion," Jacobo Therman, are under arrest in connection with the investigation.

The uncle, Pedro Graiver, and his wife, Catalina, were arrested Saturday as they about to board a plane for Israel.

The implication in the arrest was that he was trying to flee the country, but friends say he was on his way to visit a daughter. He is president of the large Hebrew Community Centre in La Plata, 50 kms. to the south, home of the Graiver family.

Meanwhile, the right-wing newspaper "Nueva Provincia" of Bahia Blanca, an Atlantic coast port 800 kms. to the south, which has been publishing tantalizing stories about the case, in its Sunday edition that former Argentine strongman Juan Peron, who died in 1974, and widow Isabel, overthrown last year, and at least nine other well-known Argentines were investors with Graiver. It quoted "unimpeachable sources" as saying that a Colonel Alberto Camps, who is one of the investigators, was offered \$6m. and ownership Graiver-built skyscraper in the Atlantic resort of Mar del Plata to forget the probe.

In neighbouring Uruguay, the newspaper "Mundo Color" said the government there was investigating reports that Graiver may have large investments at the famous Punta del resort.

Gromyko opens India talks

NEW DELHI (Reuters). — Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko met India's new leaders yesterday on a mission to maintain close Indo-Soviet ties forged under the ousted Congress Party government.

"We cannot allow any gaps to appear in Indo-Soviet relations," he told reporters following what he called a very useful two-hour session with Morarji Desai, the new prime minister. He also said Indo-Soviet ties threatened no other state.

The close links with Moscow, including a 1971 treaty of peace, friendship and cooperation, were developed during the premiership of Indira Gandhi, ousted in general elections last month. Desai has said he seeks genuine non-alignment, with no suspicion of drifting too near any one great power.

Gromyko's talks with Desai were followed by a lunch with India's foreign minister, Atal Bihari Vajpayee, spoke warmly of the bonds with the Kremlin. Indo-Soviet friendship was "strong enough to survive the demands of divergent eyes, the fate of an individual or the fortunes of a political party," Vajpayee said.

The friendship between the two countries "has remained a constant factor for peace and stability in Asia and the world," Vajpayee said.

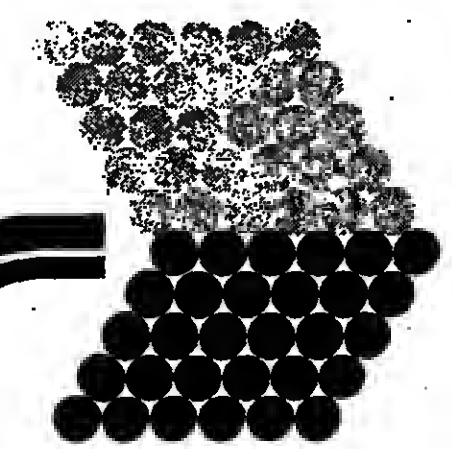
India appreciated the help that the Soviet Union had given to industrialize the country and make it self-reliant, Vajpayee said. India was also grateful for what he called the Soviet Union's consistent and principled support in difficult times.

Israel fights UN 'racism' parley

UNITED NATIONS (AP). — Israel urged the UN Economic and Social Committee on Monday to keep anti-Semitism out of the world conference to combat racism and racial discrimination planned for next year.

Israel Ambassador Chaim Herzog opposed a preparatory subcommittee's recommendations that the conference work for "full and universal implementation" of UN resolutions on racism, and that conference documentation include the report of a Baghdad "Seminar on Racial Discrimination."

Herzog noted that among the UN resolutions was the General Assembly's 1975 pronouncement that "Zionism is a form of racism." He pointed out that the Baghdad "Seminar" last November was also called the "International Symposium on Zionism," which he described as "viciously anti-Semitic."



TWO IMPORTANT DATES FOR HISTADRUT MEMBERS.

30.4.77
Until the 30th of April, you can still pay up your membership dues and guarantee your right to vote.

8.5.77
Check if you're on the voters' register. Until the 8th of May, you can still appeal to your local election committee if your name is not on the voters' register. Further details are available at every labour council.

The Histadrut is there for you. Election Day: 21.6.77

The General Federation of Labour in Israel
The Histadrut Convention. Na'amat Convention.
Local Labour Councils.

RESIDENTS OF JERUSALEM

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Discount

to all those who pay their taxes by the end of April.

Payments are accepted at all banks and at the Municipal Treasurer's Department, 67 Rehov Haneviim.

During April the Department will also be open from 4-6p.m. (except for eves of holidays and Friday afternoons).

Those who have not received a payment booklet but wish to take advantage of the opportunity are requested to apply to the Municipal Treasurer's Department.

Eat, drink and make money

It's nicer doing business over lunch. Away from a stuffy office atmosphere. That's why the "SABRA" COFFEE SHOP is a favourite lunch time spot for businessmen who know what they want: delicious food in a relaxed atmosphere in the center of town. Parking facilities save you precious time for more productive contacts. Mix a little business with a lot more pleasure at the "SABRA" COFFEE SHOP.

DAN HOTEL, TEL AVIV
DAN CARMEL HOTEL, HAIFA
KING DAVID HOTEL, JERUSALEM

SABRA
coffee shop

FROM MY JERUSALEM KITCHEN/Sybil Zimmerman

For kids to make

PEANUT BUTTER COOKIES

1 1/2 cups flour
1/2 cup baking soda
1/2 cup salt
1 egg
1/2 cup butter or margarine, softened
1/2 cup brown sugar
1/2 cup white sugar
1/2 cup peanut butter
1/2 cup vanilla
1. In a mixing bowl, combine flour, baking soda, and salt. Add the egg and beat with a spoon.
2. In a second mixing bowl, place the softened butter or margarine, add brown sugar, white sugar, peanut butter and vanilla. Slowly add the flour mixture. Mix well.
3. Form the dough by hand into small balls. Place the balls on a cookie sheet, using a fork to flatten each with a cross-hatch pattern. Bake at 375°F (190°C) 10 minutes.

SHAKE FOR TWO

1/2 cup chocolate ice cream
1/2 cup chocolate syrup
1. Mix ice cream in a jar or other container with a tight lid. Add syrup. Mix with a spoon.
2. Add milk. Close lid. Shake hard.

EGG NOG FOR TWO

2 eggs
8 cups milk
1/2 cup sugar
1/2 cup vanilla
1. Place eggs in a mixing bowl and beat with an egg beater until smooth and thick.
2. Add sugar and salt. Continue beating until mixture is smooth.
3. Add milk and vanilla. Mix. Pour into glasses. Sprinkle nutmeg on top.

A DOCTOR'S NOTE-BOOK / Dr. David Samson

Detecting an unlucky break



Persisting discomfort around the wrist after a knock or a fall should not be neglected. (Rubinger)

least not immediately after the event. In particular the fracture of a small bone at the base of the hand, the scaphoid bone, is notorious for not initially being detected on X-ray. The actual fracture line can be extremely narrow, and there is usually no displacement of the broken ends. Even close inspection of the X-ray plate with a magnifying glass may fail to show the break.

When clinical examination in such a case strongly suggests a fracture, treatment is initiated exactly as if this were so, and another X-ray is carried out about two weeks later by which time the fracture line, if present, will usually be much more easily seen. I think this letter you've

brought me will ask me to arrange this repeat X-ray for you."

My hunch was correct and the following week Shimon's second wrist X-ray confirmed the presence of a fractured scaphoid bone. The plaster was therefore retained. He was told that he would have to wear it for another two months at least since the bone in question can be slowish to unite and good immobilization is considered essential.

Minor injuries around the wrist are very common and invariably the resulting aches and pains clear up completely after a few days with a little rest and some tablets for the discomfort and without any need for medical advice. When the trouble goes on for more than a few days without any tendency to improve and particularly if the trouble spot seems to be at the base of the thumb, your doctor may consider whether the scaphoid bone could be injured and whether an X-ray is called for. Thus persisting discomfort around the wrist after a knock or a fall should not be neglected and should be brought to the attention of your doctor. Delay in the treatment of a fractured scaphoid may lead to continuous pain and even to permanent non-union of the break, with the possibility of development of arthritis in the wrist.

Shimon's plaster was removed after ten weeks, when an X-ray showed that the crack had healed successfully. He was then able to take up his job as kibbutz handyman after his unlucky break.

Dr. Samson regrets that he is unable to enter into any private correspondence in connection with his column. Readers' comments, however, may be used as a basis for future articles in the series.

IS MEDICINE entering a new era in the treatment of the cataract — that clouding of the lens of the eye which can lead to blindness?

Or is the present trail-blazing tendency to replace the damaged human lens with an intra-ocular plastic device something akin to the wave of heart transplant which rocked the world some years ago and which has now greatly subsided?

All this will be discussed at a three-day scientific conference opening today at the Daniel Tower Hotel in Herzliya. Some 70 ophthalmologists are coming from abroad, including South Africa and Japan, to participate. They will be joined by 100 of their Israeli colleagues. The conference is being organized by Prof. Michael Blumenthal, head of the Department of Ophthalmology at the Sheba Medical Centre.

Among Israelis, some 20-25 per cent of those above the age of 70 develop cataracts as part of the normal aging process; a much smaller percentage have them due to congenital birth defects, or to injuries, both physical due to an accident, or metabolic due to a hormonal imbalance, such as diabetes.

If anything, the percentage among elderly persons is increasing steadily due to the longer life span.

The first era in treating cataracts started more than three thousand years ago in India. There, a doctor called Susruta, took a needle and pushed it through the Cornea (outer layer of the eye) and into the opaque lens. With the needle he moved the lens from the path of the incoming light. The formerly blind patient regained a very limited use of his vision. He could see a few metres, but since he lacked the lens, he could not focus his vision.

Poor as the results were, it was a

Conquering cataracts

By MACABEE DEAN
Jerusalem Post Reporter

considerable improvement over being totally blind.

This came basic operation (called "couching") was repeated for thousands of years.

Then the scalpel replaced the needle, and moreover, the entire lens was removed. This type of operation has been done so often, that it is considered routine; about half of all eye operations today are for cataract removal.

The next step came about a hundred years ago when eye glasses, then in general use, were patterned to allow the patient with his lens removed to focus his sight. But not exactly, for the patient could not use such eye glasses — if he had one good eye. For the use of the glasses increased the size of the image seen by the lens-less eye by 30 per cent — and the human brain cannot accept any increase greater than seven to nine per cent superimposed on the vision of the remaining good eye.

Thus, most persons with a lens-less eye preferred not to use eye glasses at all, preferring to use only their good eye for seeing. (Paradoxically enough, if cataracts were removed from both eyes, the patient could wear glasses for both eyes and see, since the brain had no trouble at all superimposing identical images, if 30 per cent greater, on each other.)

The next step was only 20-30 years ago when it was discovered that

patients wearing a contact lens. The lens-less eye could use both eyes for the contact lens did not increase the image more than the permissible 7-9 per cent.

"The trouble is," on ophthalmologist says, "that most cataracts are found among elderly persons. Quite a few do not tolerate contact lenses, or do not care to wear them."

The solution was to implant an artificial lens. The first attempts were made in England in the early 1960's. But although gradual improvements were made both in surgical techniques and in the artificial lens itself, they were not entirely successful (although some patients still have and use the implanted artificial lens until today, 25 years later.)

It was only in the early 1960's that the right type of lens, a light plastic one with the proper curvature weighing three milligrams made of polymer, was designed by a Dutch physician. With the implanted lens the patient still needs to wear ordinary glasses, but he would no longer have to wear them at the age anyway.

So far, some 150 to 170 such implantations have been done in Israel. Nevertheless, the surgical procedure is more complicated than for an ordinary cataract and there might be more complications, says Prof. Blumenthal.

"Not all ophthalmologists favor this implantation. Some say it should only be used in patients over the age of 70; others say 50 years old; but some will even implant one in a child. When and in whom to implant the lens — which itself costs about \$120 — will be discussed at the conference. But in the final analysis, it is a highly individual decision the doctor concerned who must, and who should, undergo such surgery

BRIDGE / George E. Levin

A TIP on timing in bridge — making your plays in the right order — is an entry by Pedro-Paulo Assumpcao of Brazil in the current Bols Tip Competition.

As East, you are the declarer in three no-trump, and South leads the heart queen.

West
♠ A 7 4
♥ 7 5 4
♦ K 5
♣ A 10 8 5

You count winning two top tricks each in hearts and spades. You need four club tricks and one diamond trick, or four diamonds and one club. What is your plan of play?

Perhaps your first choice is to tackle clubs, hoping for the queen and king to be divided between North and South. Do you see the potential danger of playing the clubs before the diamonds? When you lose to a high club your remaining high heart will be forced out, and the diamond ace will enable the defence to win possibly three heart tricks, setting the contract.

Now take a look at all four hands

North
♠ 10 8 5 2
♥ 9 5 3
♦ 10 7 2
♣ A 4

East
♠ K 8 6
♥ A K
♦ Q 9 8 5 3
♣ 9 8 2

South (7)
♠ 9 10 8 6
♥ A J 4
♦ K 7 5

If the king wins the diamond lead, you can proceed to set up clubs by finessing twice. If South rises with the diamond ace, you will be able to win four diamonds as well as the club ace and make your contract.

Assumpcao's tip is this: "When more than one play is needed to make the contract, give special thought to the best sequence. You may well find that the order in which you make your plays is no less important than the plays themselves."

MUSIC / Yohanan Boehm

Successful de-fossilization

THE JERUSALEM SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, Lukas Foss conducting, will perform the "Jerusalem Suite" by Avir Filderman, Choral Director by Stanley Sperber (Jerusalem Theatre-April 18). Soloists: Psalms 12, set for 3 voices, 3 horns, 3 trombones and tuba; Lukas Foss: "Salomon's Song" Suite; Yehudi Menuhin: "Tsimtsum"; (Ecclesiastes 12); Stravinsky: Symphony "Trance".

ADLER'S SETTING of a Rosalind Psalm for three groups of brass instruments preserved the original musical text and achieved nice stereophonic effects in his arrangement. On the other hand, Lukas Foss explained from the podium — that he intended in his Suite to bring Rosalind's music nearer to the 20th century and pay homage to the great composer (who lived ca.1570-ca.1630) by adding his own commentary to the originals. As this was a quite modest attempt at "de-fossilization," it was entertaining without altering our esteem of Salomone di Rosal. As an in-

terlude, the "Jerusalem Players" performed two simfonias and a galliard by the composer who served at Gonzaga's Court in Mantua, probably in order to show how the music sounded unadorned and without comment.

Commissioned by the Israel Broadcasting Authority, Yosef Marzouk's "Until..." is based on the last chapter of Ecclesiastes with its admonition "to remember thy Creator in the days of thy youth, before the evil days come" and ends with the often quoted "Vanity of vanities, all is vanity." The singer had to be content to recite the words and was only occasionally called upon to intone some sort of singing line. The main interest is focused on the percussion section, though transparently applied, and a glissandi (gliding sounds without clear intervals) play an important role in the score. The piece does not convey anything original or impressive and can only be classified as another of the composer's efforts to find his way and a language of his own.

Finally, Stravinsky's perhaps most translucent and simplest work — the Symphony of Psalms, written in 1930 and revised in 1948 — was introduced by the conductor with a lengthy and quite out-of-place talk on his memories of the master. It did not help to turn the performance into a memorable one, as the choir, though large in numbers but with too many veteran choristers, does not possess any special tone quality or rich volume. Nor could the conductor, despite his personal involvement, create the atmosphere appropriate to the profundity of the composition.

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Unauthorized obligations, subsidy system and underwriting of linkage take their toll

National debt soars on over-spending

THE STATE Comptroller's Report which, although formally submitted to the Eighth Knesset will necessarily be discussed only by the Ninth, raps the Treasury on many subjects which have been criticized in previous reports. They include the continuing large-scale extra-budgetary expenditures which are not subject to any effective parliamentary control; a subsidy system, which leads to the misallocation of resources and the underwriting of the public debt as a result of the underwriting of linkage. As usual, the report records inefficiencies and the administration's inability to cope with the increasing complexity of the country's financial affairs.

What is new in this year's report is the revelation of the growing practice of what is called tax farming through the commercial banks. In fiscal 1976 it amounted to 37 per cent of total tax collections from companies and self-employed persons. This delegation of the job of collecting taxes is but part of a broader picture of increasing domination by the banks — mainly the big three, Bank Leumi, Bank Hapoalim and the Discount Bank — in all operations involving savings and investment.

The report of the Comptroller's Report is, in fact, that as inflation has raged, the Government's expenditure has soared and its debt, both internal and external, has mounted far beyond the already astronomical levels recorded in the Treasury's books in consequence of extra-budgetary commitments. By far the greater part of these developments turns out to have been to the advantage of the big banks and property-holders in general.

THE FRAMEWORK for the Government's financial activities, the budget, was particularly elastic in fiscal 1975, for three reasons. First, there was a supplementary budget of IL61.5m, which represented an increase of 18.3 per cent in the authorized expenditure. Second, there were extra-budgetary expenditures, in the form of loans obtained by the banks and others and channeled to all kinds of deserving causes, unlinked but involving future commitments for which there is neither an authoritative estimate nor parliamentary control.

Thirdly, the State Comptroller, in his typically guarded language, criticizes the Government for a 53 per cent increase in expenditure, as against a 33 per cent rise in the cost of living index and a 37 per cent increase in the exchange rate, while the explanation to the budget spoke of maintaining the real level of public expenditure.

This excess of actual expenditure over declared intentions necessitated recourse to Bank of Israel financing — money printing — to the tune of IL15.5m. Worse still, the Comptroller points out, the Treasury knew, even before its original IL66.2b. budget was approved by the Knesset that its obligations on account of reserves, were greater than the sum of those reserves.

Many of these payments represented recurring commitments, such as IL187m. to the Jewish Agency, and IL43m. to the Agricultural Bank, which were not included in the original budget submitted to the Knesset.

It appears that in addition to knowingly presenting the Knesset with under-estimates and carrying out large-scale financial operations outside the budget, the Treasury shifted IL200m. from one budget item to another without the requisite Knesset Finance Committee authorization.

The Treasury also felt free not only to spend money without, or prior to authorization. But to use surpluses from the previous year's appropriation. This, says the Comptroller, actually means an increase of authorized expenditure.

Make-believe

IN FISCAL 1976, the Government declared its intention of cutting public expenditure. According to the report, many of these budgetary cuts were not much more than make-believe, for either they were restored in the framework of the supplementary budget, or actual expenditure exceeded authorized spending.

No more real were the planned cuts in the number of government employees. There was in fact an increase of 66 employees or 1.1 per cent. If teachers and policemen are included, the increase was 6,735 or 5.4 per cent. The Comptroller says that the Civil Service Commission does not, in fact, have up-to-date data on empty or dispensable posts in the public service, which makes the planning of staff reductions difficult, if not impossible.

The declared policy of reducing government staff was further circumvented by an increased reliance on contracting outside services, mainly in the Labour Field. They ranged from such relatively simple services as guard duties to engineering, planning, supervision and control, computer planners, and public accountants. Even surveys of the organization of government offices were contracted out.

The Comptroller points out for the second year running, that while the contracting for specific, temporary services may have the advantage of flexibility, and economy, it also carries with it the danger that standards of rectitude may be impaired and that professional units in the government may lose their function.

In general, the Treasury's budgeting procedures come under criticism in many chapters of the Report, reflecting the apparent inadequacy of the forecasting and reporting systems of the Budget Department and the Accountant General.

WITH ACCELERATING inflation, the more or less open subsidy system, both on current account — for so-called essential consumer goods and the inputs needed to produce them — and on capital account, through the gigantic sub-

sidization of productive as well as unproductive investment — has apparently become inadequate. Therefore, the Government has resorted increasingly to extra-budgetary commitments, whose subsidy element is practically unenforceable and not controllable through Knesset procedures. As a matter of fact, says the Comptroller, the Treasury itself has inadequate knowledge of the obligations it has undertaken.

The subsidies to essential commodities are by now an old story. The Comptroller points out, once again, that the existing system leads to the misallocation of resources, the unintended subsidization of inessential products, and uneconomic overproduction of subsidized products, which means inefficient production in general.

He cites as an example the subsidy to frozen chicken. This was originally intended not only as a means of reducing the price of an essential product but also to encourage the substitution of domestic production for imports of expensive frozen beef. To the same end, the price of frozen beef was raised.

The result was that by July, 1976, frozen chicken subsidy represented 80 per cent of the price to the consumer. According to the 1977 budget, it is still 85 per cent of the price. The cost of saving a dollar on imported meat, according to Treasury calculations quoted in the report, was between IL20 and IL30.

A result of this subsidy was considerable overproduction, which, according to the Treasury, was to be cut by 7.9 per cent. In an allied branch, the production of eggs, where the subsidy according to the 1977 budget is 34 per cent, the result was an overproduction which, by August 1976, led to an accumulation of 160m. eggs — 18 per cent of the annual consumption. Having subsidized their production, the Treasury undertook to cover the losses of the Poultry Marketing Board in converting 22m. of them into egg powder.

Irrationalities

THE IRRATIONALITIES of the system, which is apparently designed to favour producers, are exemplified by the case of sugar. When sugar abroad was dear and subsidized, manufacturers were allowed to buy as much as they wanted, including that needed for the production of uncontrolled products at the subsidized price. When the world price of sugar fell, they were allowed to import directly, while the consumer bore the cost of the previously imported, expensive sugar, including the cost of maintaining emergency stocks.

There was also a big accumulation of surplus milk powder, imported by the Milk Marketing Board at high prices even though prices were on the decline. When consumption fell off as a result of domestic price increases, the Board found itself committed to an expensive stock sufficient for two years. The Treasury covered the loss involved in getting some of the pending orders cancelled, and in disposing of the rest.

The Milk Marketing Board was not only caught unaware by factors beyond its control. It also had no proper recording system, did not report to the Treasury, failed to release shipments from Customs and thus incurred high costs (ultimately covered by the Government).

Although the 1977 budget has reduced the fodder subsidy to an insignificant amount, the Comptroller still lists this as a major factor in the indirect subsidization of the poultry industry — amounting to a total of IL200m.

IN GENERAL, the Comptroller repeats his admonition that everything should be done to assure that the subsidies reach the consumer for whom they are intended and do not serve to swell the profits of producers. But the lackadaisical procedures which govern the subsidizing of essential products come in for stronger criticism.

The Comptroller points out that the subsidies to the poultry industry — which, according to the 1977 budget will come to IL460m. for eggs and frozen chicken — are based upon antiquated cost estimates. His comment that in the years 1969-74 this caused excess expenditure implies that the cost estimates are based on pre-1969 data — ignoring all the much-outdated advances in agricultural productivity in the years since then.

But not only have the declines of actual production costs been overlooked and left as an additional profit to the farmers; the subsidies are, says the Comptroller, paid according to producers' reports. Over these there was until fiscal 1975 no adequate control. According to the Accountant General, there is now better control, through public accountants, of bakeries and oil refineries. But since he does not mention poultry farming, it is to be assumed that the farmers are still beneficiaries of a system which allows them to get away with as much as they can extract in the way of subsidies.

Another traditional favourite son is public transport — which means mainly Egged. As already made known in the press, Egged was supposed to tide over its financial difficulties by selling assets of its daughter company, Mifalei Tahanot, nominally owner of the bus stations. According to the Comptroller, Egged got IL200m. in June, 1976, but by January, 1977, no assets had started to be sold. Egged also got unlinked credit to enable it to release from Customs buses ordered in 1976 — this to the tune of 90 per cent of the cost of the vehicles. According to the Comptroller, the Transport Ministry really doesn't know how many buses Egged ordered and when, but a check showed that Egged included, in the lists it produced for financing, buses and frames ordered before 1975.

LEST ANYONE should think that the subsidy to agriculture and a few favoured industries ends with what

is listed in the budget, the Comptroller's Report puts him right. The subsidy to Mazout (residual oil), which in fiscal 1975 was 30 per cent and accounted for 60 per cent of the cost of producing electric power, actually amounted to a 20 per cent subsidy to the price of electric power. This, on top of the direct subsidy to water.

But not only agriculture, where subsidized electric power pumps subsidised water to where it's needed, benefited. The cost of producing cement, a heavy user of Mazout, was also reduced. Why it was taxed again through the cement excise duty is not clear — unless it was to reduce the cost to the producer — Neher, the Elstadrut-owned monopolist — while increasing costs to the builders.

Capital subsidies

THE BUDGET included an expenditure of IL554m. — 175 per cent more than in 1974 — for subsidies to credit in various forms. But the Comptroller notes this was only a small part of the real subsidy to credits and loans. As against the current subsidies to products or raw materials, which can be abolished at any time, the subsidy incorporated in the Treasury's undertaking to cover linkage are unpredictable and uncontrollable. This is dangerous from both the fiscal and the economic viewpoint, implying as it does that, quite apart from the problem of parliamentary control, the Treasury itself is losing control over its own commitments.

THESE MAINLY extra-budgetary commitments, which take the form of an undertaking by the Treasury to cover the debt increments resulting from changes in the exchange rate or the index, are intimately related to what happened in the capital market and to the role of the major banks.

The Comptroller notes that the share of the Government in new issues of debentures fell. At the same time, the relative share of private issuers, mainly the three big banks, who accounted for 91.5 per cent of total issues in 1975, increased. Thus, the banks played a bigger role in

By MEIR MERHAV
Post Economic Editor

Since most of the money so recruited have their source in compulsory savings, through the pension funds, the Comptroller says that "direct disposition of the institutional savings, subject to the obligation of 'recognized investment', would have reduced the cost of this money to the Treasury." The same phenomenon was criticized last year — apparently to no effect.

In fiscal 1975, the Treasury approved capital issues of IL5,945m. compared with IL1,140m. in 1974. The issues authorized for the banks were IL5,502m. compared with IL5,535m. The issues of direct government debentures fell. The report attributes much of this to the reduction of linkage from 100 per cent to 90, then 80 per cent, but points out that the decline began in 1974. Whatever the reason, the shift of mobilizing savings to the banks increases the cost to the Government, and thus to the taxpayer. Moreover, the proportion of these issues left to the banks for their free disposal also rose by nearly 50 per cent.

WHAT HAPPENED, according to the Comptroller, was that while the bank's savings schemes — based largely on their own security issues — remained linked 100 per cent, the linkage of government debentures was reduced. Therefore, more savings flowed into the banks' schemes. Even the apparent decline in the sale of direct government bonds is misleading, according to the report, for it was the Bank of Israel which bought IL380m. of these; the public bought no more than IL20m. The rest actually amounted to printing more money.

The lion's share of the new issues — IL2,662m., or 51.5 per cent of the total new bank issues of securities — fell to the Bank Hapoalim group. Another 25.5 per cent, or IL1,431m., was accounted for by the Bank Leumi Group. The share of the Discount Bank group, was IL543m., or 14.5 per cent of the total. The in-

crease in such, and the Treasury guarantees the linkage. To the extent that the bank borrows money for 17 or 20 years but lends for 6, 8, 12 years, and at higher rates of interest, it profits even more. The linkage differential will ultimately have to be covered by taxes the citizen will have to pay.

The upshot is that the tax-free pension fund deductions finance subsidized investments, mainly in Hevrat Ha'ovdim — for example, Koor, Solal Boleh, the kibbutzim and the moshavim, Hamashtir — while taxes will have to rise to pay for the linkage of the pension funds originally created by deductions from employees' salaries.

THE FOOTNOTES to the system of subsidization are sometimes as interesting as the main text. When the banks issue bonds, the Treasury guarantees them linkage on the basis of the last known cost of living index. They pay linkage, however, only on the basis of the index known at the time of sale of the bonds — which may be two or three months later. This is just one of the many incidental little profits pinpointed by the Comptroller.

His most serious criticism of the system is that the linkage insurance is an unpredictable obligation not subject to parliamentary control. In short, we may interpret, it is a time bomb.

The real extent of these obligations is not known with precision. According to the Comptroller, the amount at the end of December 1976, was about IL22.3b. plus 11b. — a total of IL33.3b. As long as inflation continues at the present rates, this will swell by 30-40 per cent each year without adding any real resources.

The system of subsidizing capital is apparently also subject to the laws of equality. Formerly, it was only Hevrat Ha'ovdim which enjoyed "supplementary" credits that made it possible to set up an enterprise without raising any own capital. By September, 1976, the system was extended to include enterprises belonging to the Manufacturers' Association. Hevrat Ha'ovdim had acquired a framework of IL350m.; the Manufacturers' Association got IL100m.

The industrial enterprises of the

TALES FOR TAXPAYERS

By GIDION ESHET

WHEN DO income tax revenues increase? When such an increase is registered in the books. Is it essential for money to enter the Treasury's current account in order to register such an increase? Not necessarily.

The income tax authorities grant self-employed people and companies loans to pay their taxes. In 1976, IL2.5b. were granted for this purpose. When a loan of this kind is made, the books register that the tax has been paid. But in fact nothing of the sort happens. No money passes. The company concerned is recorded as having received a loan on which it pays 20 per cent interest. This "loan" is returned in monthly payments. What happens, therefore, is that the Treasury receives monthly sums of money which include interest.

But this is not the whole story. The taxpayer pays 25 per cent interest. When inflation is 40 per cent, as it was last year, he makes 14 per cent on what he owes the tax authorities. On the 1975 figure of IL2.5b. and an average of 7 per cent interest (taking monthly payments into account) taxpayers made, and the state lost, about IL175m. There is more to it than that, however. The 20 per cent interest is for tax purposes, so that someone paying income tax at 20 per cent makes another small profit. In 1975, this amounted to a further

IL200m. loss to the Treasury and gain to the taxpayer.

HOW TO SHOW losses while making profits? The Industrial Development Bank is the government's main vehicle for supplying industry with development loans. Since most of the funds of this bank come from the Government, and since there is no risk in granting the loans, it was decided that the bank's profit margin should be 1.75 per cent.

In 1975, the bank complained that this was insufficient. A committee was appointed to study the matter and it recommended that the margin be increased significantly. The committee based its recommendation on figures supplied by the bank which showed that after tax, profits for the period 1968-70 increased by only 55 per cent. The final figure in the bank's balance sheet proved that profits had actually increased by 85 per cent in that time.

However, in the meantime the Government had already upped the profit margin and did not reverse its decision.

HOW DID Tel Aviv become a development town?

It didn't except on one occasion. To be defined as a development town is

an advantage. Those investing in such towns are entitled to the low-interest development loans which are granted to industry. If the industry is also an exporter, the loans are bigger and the interest lower.

Tel Aviv is not developing town for regular citizens. But Meirav, Migdal Mosheviot and Bnei Shimon and their industrialists' Federations are a different matter. They applied for a loan as a development loan for the purpose of building the Federation's offices in the "new" city in Tel Aviv. In 1975, they received IL20m., or 4 per cent of all the loans granted to industry in that year. And then they say there are insufficient resources for industrial investment!

HOW TO SELL bonds and print money at the same time.

In normal capitalist countries, a government sells bonds to absorb money from the public. This saves it from having to print money. But we ride ourselves on being different, so here is our contribution to modern economic practice.

When the linkage of government bonds was reduced from 100 to 80 per cent, the public stopped buying them. But the Treasury needed money, so it searched for buyers. Eventually it found one. The happy buyer was the Bank of Israel. It bought bonds to the value of IL380m.

Where did the money come from? The printing press worked overtime.

THE SUBSIDIZATION of Industry and Agriculture is a story in itself. Judging by the report, a substantial part of the profits from these operations goes to the two main banks concerned: the Agricultural Bank, which is government-owned; and the Industrial Development Bank, which is financed by the Government to the tune of 53 per cent, but where the big three commercial banks have managed to obtain 60 per cent of the voting rights. According to the report, the government-appointed director, who now has less than a blocking vote, and have only a 24.4 per cent control, have not even bothered to attend most of the board meetings.

In the Agricultural Bank, the Government has only three out of 17 directors. The rest represent the interested parties — farmers of all movements. The bank is the main agency through which the Government finances investment in agriculture. Moreover, the Government has made it responsible for collecting debts from agricultural settlements to the Jewish Agency. For the collection of these debts, some of which may be 30 years old, originally granted with a minimum grace period of 10 years and at 2 per cent interest, the Agricultural Bank gets a commission of 5 per cent. For every pound collected, the Government buys 25 agrot of the bank's shares.

The law stipulates payment of 4 per cent linkage increments plus 4 per cent for 50 years after payment. The taxpayer doesn't pay linkage. The taxpayer pays in fact, negative linkage. The total amount of such credits in 1976/77 was IL2,838m. The gain to taxpayers in arrears, due to relatively low interest rates compared with the rate of inflation, can be estimated at IL250m.

The Comptroller does not say so, but since this amount represented 37 per cent of the tax collected from self-employed persons and companies, tax farming through the commercial banks has obviously reached major proportions. This is not only a loss of money to the Treasury, but according to the report, it is in direct contravention of the law on income tax after the Ben Shimon reform.

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Nor is this the whole story. The commercial banks did not pay cash for at least half the amount of the outstanding credit. They acquired credit balances in the Accountant General's clearing accounts paid at 12 per cent interest for the money due to April and May.

As if this were not enough, we well and find that one bank, which carried out a major proportion of the transactions, transferred the interest payments it collected on a monthly basis only every three months, thus retaining the collected money for an additional period. The amount in the Accountant General's clearing accounts paid at 12 per cent interest for the money due to April and May.

The Comptroller says emphatically on E. A. In the system of tax payment on the installment plan, it increases the amount of money of credit in the country and reduces the incentive to collect taxes in cash regulations. The Comptroller criticizes, Israel was a general, the system of clearing accounts was maintained by the Accountant General until the end of 1976; and in 1977, these accounts ceased to be maintained. In 1974, after accounts had been not gradually cleared, the clearing was not the Air Force's clearing accounts; day in and day out, IL150b. The Accountant General's members of the bank; and even permitted overdrafts in these accounts. These came to IL250m. and represented an unauthorised lending operation.

Since the Agricultural Bank has no savings schemes of its own, it found it difficult to sell its bonds, and had to raise money by buying from the commercial banks. This money, intended for re-lending to farmers at subsidized interest rates, was, however, first re-deposited with the issue banks for 3-4 months. Thus, the commercial banks got the use of cheap money, which was fully linked by the Treasury from the day of issue, while the farmers waited for their loans. All in all, it was the banks that gained.

The Comptroller says that because of the proliferation of intermediaries, the cost of the money lent to farmers was too high, and the period for which this directed credit was intended was shortened.

MUCH THE SAME is true with regard to the Industrial Development Bank. This, as already noted, is now dominated by the big three, even though the Government holds most of the bill. According to the Comptroller, the commercial banks gain access to valuable information about firms getting loans from the Industrial Bank and may have conflicting interests.

In 1975, the Industrial Bank asked for a government subsidy to increase its profitability, arguing that since 1968, its profits had risen only 65 per cent and its reserves were only 6.8 per cent of outstanding loans. A committee was appointed and the bank was granted IL26.5m. to improve its profit position.

Eventually, it turned out that the figures it had submitted were incorrect. Profits were up by 85 per cent and reserves were higher than originally stated. In addition, the Comptroller notes, 1968 was a non-representative base year for comparison because in that year profits were increased considerably by a Treasury grant destined to compensate the bank for the abolition of loan linkages up to 1968.

The Industrial Bank has IL163m. of preferred shares, on which it pays an assured net dividend of 7-8.25 per cent. The Treasury ensures that this is grossed up — so that the Government in fact pays the taxes due on these dividends. This comes to 12.7 to 20.6 per cent interest, gross, in addition to full linkage. The preferred shares are owned mostly by the big banks.

More profits

The bank makes further profits by charging higher interest rates on advance against unconfirmed development loans. If the loan has already been approved but the entitlement has not yet been checked on site, the bank charges 1 per cent more than the official rate. If the loan itself has not been approved — a matter which is largely subject to the bank's control — the interest goes up to 20 per cent.

The Industrial Development Bank is not a Government corporation; it is a mixed enterprise, because the Government has less than 50 per cent voting rights. Therefore, according to the law, investments in it are not subject to Knesset Finance Committee approval. The Treasury thus has no real interest in increasing its voting rights to the extent of its share in the financing of the bank. The Comptroller notes that the Treasury makes great use of the bank as an instrument for its extra-budgetary operations, which are also not controlled by the Knesset.

THE GRANTING of so-called loans to ease the payment of tax arrears dates back to the '50s. Taxpayers can, on a recommendation from the tax inspector, get credit for up to 18 months for the payment of tax arrears. Up to six months, the interest rate is 20 per cent, and for longer periods — 25 per cent.

The bank carries out an accounting transaction: it debits the taxpayer's account, charges him interest, and credits the Treasury's ac-

count. The money collected are considered a Treasury deposit, repayable. The Treasury, which has been paid into the bank, the bank pays the Treasury 2-3 per cent less interest than it charges the taxpayer.

Thus, the bank has use of the money, interest-free and unlinked, for 60 years after payment. The taxpayer doesn't pay linkage. The taxpayer pays in fact, negative linkage. The total amount of such credits in 1976/77 was IL2,838m. The gain to taxpayers in arrears, due to relatively low interest rates compared with the rate of inflation, can be estimated at IL250m.

The Comptroller does not say so, but since this amount represented 37 per cent of the tax collected from self-employed persons and companies, tax farming through the commercial banks has obviously reached major proportions. This is not only a loss of money to the Treasury, but according to the report, it is in direct contravention of the law on income tax after the Ben Shimon reform.

The law stipulates payment of 4 per cent linkage increments plus 4 per cent for 50 years after payment. The taxpayer doesn't pay linkage. The taxpayer pays in fact, negative linkage. The total amount of such credits in 1976/77 was IL2,838m. The gain to taxpayers in arrears, due to relatively low interest rates compared with the rate of inflation, can be estimated at IL250m.

Nor is this the whole story. The commercial banks did not pay cash for at least half the amount of the outstanding credit. They acquired credit balances in the Accountant General's clearing accounts paid at 12 per cent interest for the money due to April and May.

As if this were not enough, we well and find that one bank, which carried out a major proportion of the transactions, transferred the interest payments it collected on a monthly basis only every three months, thus retaining the collected money for an additional period. The amount in the Accountant General's clearing accounts paid at 12 per cent interest for the money due to April and May.

The Comptroller says emphatically on E. A. In the system of tax payment on the installment plan, it increases the amount of money of credit in the country and reduces the incentive to collect taxes in cash regulations. The Comptroller criticizes, Israel was a general, the system of clearing accounts was maintained by the Accountant General until the end of 1976; and in 1977, these accounts ceased to be maintained. In 1974, after accounts had been not gradually cleared, the clearing was not the Air Force's clearing accounts; day in and day out, IL150b. The Accountant General's members of the bank; and even permitted overdrafts in these accounts. These came to IL250m. and represented an unauthorised lending operation.

Since the Agricultural Bank has no savings schemes of its own, it found it difficult to sell its bonds, and had to raise money by buying from the commercial banks. This money, intended for re-lending to farmers at subsidized interest rates, was, however, first re-deposited with the issue banks for 3-4 months. Thus, the commercial banks got the use of cheap money, which was fully linked by the Treasury from the day of issue, while the farmers waited for their loans. All in all, it was the banks that gained.

The Comptroller says that because of the proliferation of intermediaries, the cost of the money lent to farmers was too high, and the period for which this directed credit was intended was shortened.

MUCH THE SAME is true with regard to the Industrial Development Bank. This, as already noted, is now dominated by the big three, even though the Government holds most of the bill. According to the Comptroller, the commercial banks gain access to valuable information about firms getting loans from the Industrial Bank and may have conflicting interests.

In 1975, the Industrial Bank asked for a government subsidy to increase its profitability, arguing that since 1968, its profits had risen only 65 per cent and its reserves were only 6.8 per cent of outstanding loans. A committee was appointed and the bank was granted IL26.5m. to improve its profit position.

Eventually, it turned out that the figures it had submitted were incorrect. Profits were up by 85 per cent and reserves were higher than originally stated. In addition, the Comptroller notes, 1968 was a non-representative base year for comparison because in that year profits were increased considerably by a Treasury grant destined to compensate the bank for the abolition of loan linkages up to 1968.

The Industrial Bank has IL163m. of preferred shares, on which it pays an assured net dividend of 7-8.25 per cent. The Treasury ensures that this is grossed up — so that the Government in fact pays the taxes due on these dividends. This comes to 12.7 to 20.6 per cent interest, gross, in addition to full linkage. The preferred shares are owned mostly by the big banks.

More profits

The bank makes further profits by charging higher interest rates on advance against unconfirmed development loans. If the loan has already been approved but the entitlement has not yet been checked on site, the bank charges 1 per cent more than the official rate. If the loan itself has not been approved — a matter which is largely subject to the bank's control — the interest goes up to 20 per cent.

The Industrial Development Bank is not a Government corporation; it is a mixed enterprise, because the Government has less than 50 per cent voting rights. Therefore, according to the law, investments in it are not subject to Knesset Finance Committee approval. The Treasury thus has no real interest in increasing its voting rights to the extent of its share in the financing of the bank. The Comptroller notes that the Treasury makes great use of the bank as an instrument for its extra-budgetary operations, which are also not controlled by the Knesset.

THE GRANTING of so-called loans to ease the payment of tax arrears dates back to the '50s. Taxpayers can, on a recommendation from the tax inspector, get credit for up to 18 months for the payment of tax arrears. Up to six months, the interest rate is 20 per cent, and for longer periods — 25 per cent.

The bank carries out an accounting transaction: it debits the taxpayer's account, charges him interest, and credits the Treasury's ac-

count. The money collected are considered a Treasury deposit, repayable. The Treasury, which has been paid into the bank, the bank pays the Treasury 2-3 per cent less interest than it charges the taxpayer.

Thus, the bank has use of the money, interest-free and unlinked, for 60 years after payment. The taxpayer doesn't pay linkage. The taxpayer pays in fact, negative linkage. The total amount of such credits in 1976/77 was IL2,838m. The gain to taxpayers in arrears, due to relatively low interest rates compared with the rate of inflation, can be estimated at IL250m.

OFFICERS' PRIVATE FLIGHTS COST MILLIONS OF POUNDS

The IDF: Emergency stores in disarray

By HIRSH GOODMAN
Post Military Correspondent

THE ISRAELI Defence Forces come under scrutiny in the State Comptroller's report issued today. In a 100-page document covering many aspects of the IDF, the Comptroller points out a lack of preparedness on the part of reserves; poorly kept inventories; military prisons; and shortcomings with regard to personnel in the regular army.

Possibly the most shocking revelation — if perhaps not the most serious — concerns the lack of control on the private use of planes by Air Force officers — a practice which has cost the country millions. The Comptroller reports that in one instance, an Air Force command made light aircraft available to two officers on a permanent basis so that they could fly home in their off-duty time. "This despite the fact that the Air Force ran regular daily flights along exactly the same routes."

In the case of one of these officers, his personal flights during 1975 cost IL7,000. The other cost the Air Force IL13,000 when he flew home some 50 times over a three-month period in 1975. The Comptroller discovered yet a third officer who cost the country an additional IL15,400 in two months during the same year by ignoring the special arrangements made for him, and using his private plane.

The report mentions a base commander in the south who, together with his deputy, flew home regularly in a light jet aircraft — despite two daily — and usually empty — flights north from the base. At IL3,300 per hour, this cost IL66,000 in the months of April and May 1976.

The Comptroller notes that the base itself flew out of the service not only by the Air Force but by Arkia as well, and that the commander and his deputy made their private flights without permission from the Air Force's central planning unit.

THE COMPTROLLER was also disturbed by his discovery that the Air Force paid full fares for 330 persons to fly abroad on El Al in the first five months of 1976, although there were empty Air Force flights to most of the same destinations almost daily.

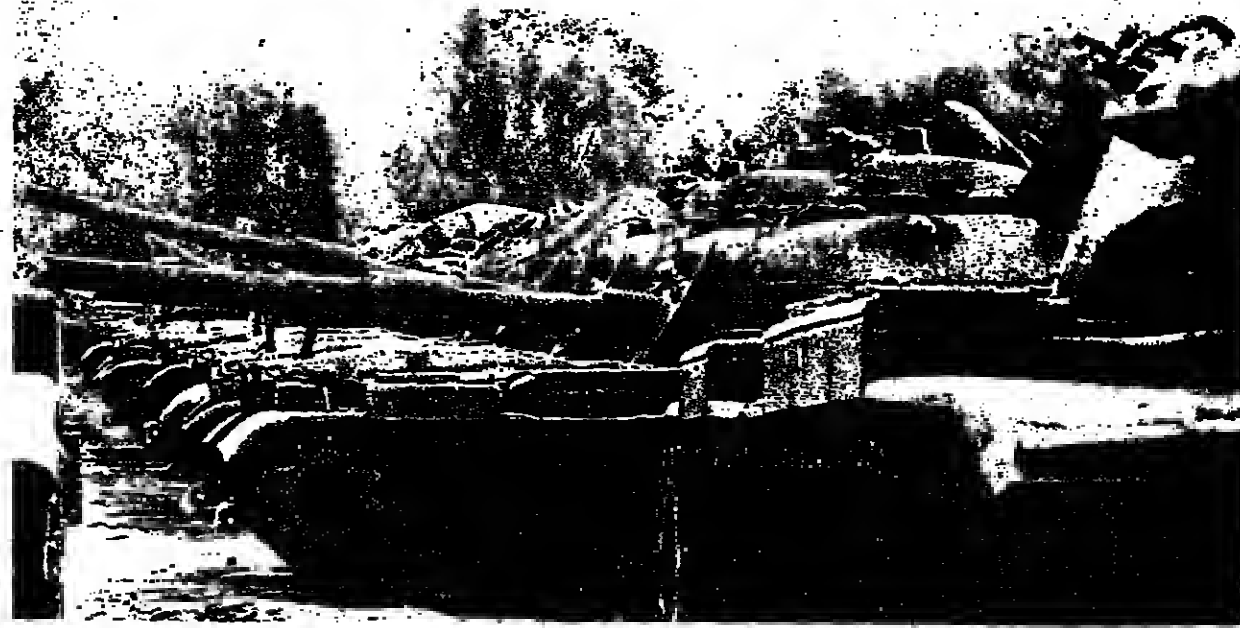
The Comptroller notes, too, that while the regulations state clearly that personnel who go abroad on Air Force aircraft are required to pay travel tax in full, in addition to \$28 per diem board and lodging for the duration of the flight, in six out of 20 cases checked not only did the passengers not pay the amounts in question, but the Air Force gave them \$21 per day in expenses, as if they were members of the air crew,

The use of Air Force planes for the private transportation of personnel appears to be common practice by most base commanders. The Comptroller found that at one base, planes had been used for what he termed "social reasons." Even the regularly scheduled flights were extremely wasteful — often costing over IL4,000 per passenger in 1976 — and in one instance he found that a plane had been dispatched empty to the north in order to fly one officer to the south and then return empty to the centre of the country.

FAR MORE SERIOUS matters came to the surface, however, when the Comptroller checked into the operations of two infantry brigades, one attached to Southern Command, and one attached to Central Command. He found that in an emergency call-up exercise carried out by the Central Command brigade in June 1976, 84 per cent of those called failed to return their call-up slips and thus acknowledge that they had received their papers. What bothered the Comptroller was that four months later, when the unit came under his scrutiny, nothing had been done to find out why over half the brigade had not sent in their slips.

He found that in both brigades, vehicles were not being properly maintained and were not being serviced according to Ordnance Corps regulations. While the Southern Command brigade was found to be short of personal equipment (about 15 per cent in work clothes) the Central Command brigade had a surplus ranging between 14 and 65 per cent depending on the item.

In both commands there were serious shortcomings in the keeping of stores. In the Central brigade, for



Are they ready — if needed?

example, goods valued at many thousands of pounds — including emergency food rations — had been carelessly dumped in an old building. Ammunition was found lying about outside the official storage area, and fuel was kept in conditions other than those specified by the Ordnance Corps. There was no fire extinguisher anywhere near the fuel dump, for example. In a spot check of the brigade's medical supplies, it was found that 220 ampules of what was defined as a "hallucinogenic drug" were missing.

At one of the units checked in the Southern brigade, 128 items out of a list of 290 specified were found to be missing, including spare parts for weapons.

THE SITUATION at the Central Supply Depot was also unsatisfactory.

Giving the Navy the business

IN FEBRUARY 1973 a certain Sgan-Aluf in the Navy, who happened to be in charge of the Naval Building Unit, left the service and started a private consulting engineering firm together with a partner. The Comptroller discovered that almost as soon as he left the Navy, the Sgan-Aluf, a qualified engineer, was awarded contracts for consulting to the same unit of which he had been the head. The fact that he was granted the contracts is not surprising since while he was still in uniform his unit had recommended for the job the consulting firm in which he was a partner.

All in all, in the three years after he left the Navy he was

awarded contracts for a total of IL471,000. His partner was awarded separate contracts to the tune of IL67,000 — money which went into the partnership the two had formed, of course. In addition, after he had left the Navy, the Sgan-Aluf continued to coordinate naval projects totalling IL5 million — projects he had set in motion while still in uniform.

For two-and-a-half years after leaving the IDF the officer worked from an office which the Navy made available to him at naval H.Q. including use of the phone, lights and all the rest, absolutely without charge.

At this huge store, over 360,000 separate items valued at IL4.5b. are kept, and it is responsible for the distribution of spare parts and other inventory to units.

The Comptroller found, for example, that 4,500 items sent out by the depot in the months of April through December, 1976, had not reached their destinations — or had not been acknowledged — by May, 1976. When the items were tracked down, it was discovered that many of them had been holed up for months at a depot in the South, "because they could not find suitable containers for the transport of the items to the designated units." Other items dispatched to the North could not be traced, and in many cases goods valued at thousands of pounds — such as a consignment of exhaust pipes valued at IL17,000 — had disappeared into thin air.

While only 2 per cent of all orders dealt with during the period under review went astray, the Comptroller stresses that because of the value of these items, and because of their commercial potential on the private market, he considers the faults very serious.

At the Central Supply Base, perishable foods which were supposed to be distributed on the day they were received were somehow left behind in the stores. On March 25, 1976, for example, almost 1,000 kilos of fresh fruit were found to be undistributed, although according to the ledgers all but 124 kilos had been sent out. No explanation of the discrepancy was forthcoming.

In a spot check at the same base, it was found that out of the 44 distributors queried, 17 could produce no adequate receipts showing that the goods in their charge had in fact been handed over to the units in question.

It was also found at the Central Supply Base that 26,819 emergency rations which should have been on the shelves were not there. This led to a full-scale investigation by the IDF, in which it transpired that a total of IL329,220 in emergency rations, IL47,768 in general stores and IL35,320-worth of canvas covers could not be traced.

As a result of these findings, several officers and men were prosecuted and the commander of the base was relieved of his duties.

ANOTHER MATTER which caused the Comptroller grave concern was the situation regarding the enlistment of men into the regular army. While the armed forces are apparently suffering from a serious manpower shortage, he finds that in June, 1976, 57 requests to continue serving, out of the 196 filed that month, were handled so slowly that they arrived too late for the men to be signed on.

Despite a standing order that all requests for the continuation of service reach the authorities at least three months before demobilization, the 57 mentioned did not arrive at the relevant authorities until, on average, 47 days after the man was supposed to leave the service, and 45 between one and two months before the demobilization date. Only in 51 cases out of the 196 checked did the requests reach the central authorities within the time specified. It was also noted that while standing orders demand that all such requests carry the recommendation of a Sgan Aluf, hardly any of them did.

The Comptroller also found that special incentive grants which had been set aside to attract men and women into the standing army were not paid out in full, and that no attempt was made by those responsi-

ble to inform those signing up of their entitlement to these grants. This has now been corrected.

At one of the interim placement units checked — a unit where soldiers are posted before they are finally placed — there were 780 soldiers who had been kept hanging around for over a year, and were thus technically not utilized at all. Over 15 per cent of these men had been in the interim unit for more than four years and had done no reserve duty during the whole of that time.

CONDITIONS at one of the army prisons visited were found to be unsatisfactory. This prison in question is one where soldiers convicted of crimes carrying long sentences — over six months — are sent.

Despite regulations laid down by the Chief Military Physician, men are kept in overcrowded cells, containing between 24 and 48 beds. The windows are under regulation size and, as a result, there is not enough air or light in the cells. In many cells, the lights were not in working order.

The Comptroller is very disturbed by the fact that there is no adequate occupation for the men: he regards the combination of long sentences, inadequate living conditions and lack of occupation as "extremely serious."

He also notes that while regulations stipulate that the prison authorities must provide educational activities for the inmates, the jail had but one teacher (a second had left and had not been replaced) who could handle no more than 20 pupils at a time. This was particularly serious in view of the fact that a full 60 per cent of the prisoners had less than eight years of formal study.

THE ARMOUR SCHOOL comes in for attack in the report. The Comptroller writes that in 1975, the school spent IL500,000 on additional shooting positions at a range intended to train tank gunners. Four of the new positions were never used, however, because when completed, they were discovered to be unsafe.

Because of an electrical failure at the range between May, 1975 and February, 1976, the army was forced to spend an unnecessary IL1.35m. on using actual tanks for training purposes.

poses. The Comptroller feels the fault could have been repaired more quickly.

While the drop-out rate for personnel at the school was officially put at around 10 per cent, the Comptroller found that it was between 30 and 40 per cent, and that no less than 50 per cent of those who fall complete the course were thrown out for reasons of discipline, many of them for absence without leave. He has been informed, however, that the drop-out rate dropped significantly in 1976. In addition to the bases already mentioned, the Comptroller also visited the Navy's building unit; for supply bases, the storage of munition, fuel and emergency rations were checked; and military schools where Hebrew is taught. Investigations during the year included the procedures for loans and grants to soldiers; the absorption of new equipment into the Air Force; helicopter squad; army clinics, and military map-

ing. One of the places visited was unit where all the IDF's amphibious vehicles are stored and where the country's bridging capability developed. The Comptroller away from it worried about the manner in which equipment was stored and maintained.

He found, for example, that amphibious vehicles were not maintained according to Ordnance Corps regulations, and as a result his findings the NCO responsible was jailed for 35 days.

The situation repeated itself at a second facility visited by the Comptroller, and here the commander was reprimanded, while soldiers received sentences. Types of bridges used by the were found to be out of order due to lack of spare parts. These had been ordered and were supposed to have been delivered by August, 1976, but by January, 1977 they had arrived and the two bridges still inoperable.

Stores at the unit were found very badly kept and there were serious shortages in certain classified as important. He also covered that nearly IL80,000 of stores supposed to be in the inventory were missing with no plausible explanation forthcoming.

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
\$767,000 paid for unsuitable computer

THE COMPTROLLER found that the Ministry's policy with regard to the acquisition and utilization of computers was unsoundly planned, inconsistent and, moreover, costly. Having leased a computer from a certain firm in 1968, and purchased from it, at a cost of some \$767,000 a second one, some of whose accessories had not yet been installed by the end of 1976, the Ministry changed computers in midstream. It decided to lease a more suitable computer from a different firm for a two-year period commencing February 1978. The original firm had also submitted a tender for the second computer, which was not accepted.

THE MINISTRY planned its 1975 budget badly where local expenditures in Israel currency were concerned. It transferred 1975 outlays to the 1976 budget. It also underestimated the funds required for its projects in 1975. On top of all this, the Treasury's forecast of price rises during 1975, on which it operated, was badly out of focus.

A very wide range of estimates was submitted during the year for the extra sums required to carry out all the projects planned. These were as low as IL1,500m., and as high as IL3,400m. By October 1976, the Ministry's current backlog of debts to suppliers amounted to some IL600m. Then top Treasury and Defence Ministry officials, basing themselves on a reduction in the scope of Ministry operations, secured an additional budget of IL1,450m. to tide the Ministry over.

The Comptroller criticized the fact that the Ministry was still writing out some 10,000 cheques to suppliers and contractors by hand every month. Although it decided in 1975 to go over to computerized cheques, the

necessary details were only worked out in December 1976, and by December 1976, the material had still not been fed to the computer. Adjustment of accounts with the Bank of Israel and the Post Office Bank is also still being done entirely by hand, despite the fact that those two banks are themselves computerized.

THE DEFENCE Ministry paid the oil companies some 28 per cent more for engine oil in 1974 than the commercial price warranted, because nobody bothered to check the oil companies' calculations. Some IL6.5m. was overpaid as a result, the Comptroller believes.

In 1975, after checking of calculations was introduced, the potential overpayments at the date of ordering would have been IL300,000 by comparison with the commercial price. In fact, the automatic price adjustment system led to an overpayment of IL600,000.

In 1976, the Comptroller found that although the price paid by the Defence Ministry for the actual engine oil was right, it was overpaying by some IL720,000 for oil supplied in drums, which might have been supplied in bulk.

THE PROCEDURES for releasing imported goods from the ports were found to be inefficient. In some cases, because the waybills were not sent out on time from abroad, the goods stayed in the ports for several months, and the Ministry paid wharfage accordingly. In a different type of case, it paid IL1.5m. in dues when the IDF refused to accept a shipment of trucks until alterations had been carried out in the port area. Most of this outlay could have been avoided by proper organization.

The fact that the Ministry received

BY ASHER WALLFISH

goods in containers addressed to different departments led to containers making the rounds and being progressively unloaded over periods as long as six months. As a result, the Ministry paid Zim lines IL6.3m. in container delay fees in 1975 alone.

The Comptroller sent his officials around Haifa and Ashdod ports in June 1976. They found crates addressed to the Defence Ministry and the IDF that had been lying unclaimed for months, some in the open, with the contents rusting away. The goods included engines, air conditioners, raw materials for Israel Aircraft Industries and the military industries, and many tons of spares and other equipment.

THE REPORT describes the case of a Ministry official employed on commercial operations who was permitted to moonlight as chairman of the board of a manufacturing company with a staff of hundreds of workers. He got permission to do so from the Ministry director-general, as well as the Civil Service Commission, on the grounds that he was receiving neither salary nor other benefits; that there were no commercial relations between the Ministry and the company; and that there was no conflict of interests between the man's job in the Ministry and his post in the company.

No documentation was found at the Ministry to show why the official wanted the job, who were the people he was intended to represent on the board, and what were their direct and indirect links with the Ministry. Eighteen months passed, and then

the official asked permission to accept fees for his work as chairman of the board. He submitted a declaration affirming that the company, its shareholders and two of its subsidiaries, had no ties with the Ministry. He undertook to inform the Ministry as to the fees he would be receiving, but no such information exists in the files of the Ministry or the Civil Service Commission. The latter had been unwilling to give approval to the acceptance of fees.

In January 1976, the company got into difficulties and an Official Receiver was appointed. At the same time, the State Comptroller informed the Defence Ministry that links had in fact been discovered between the department for which the official was responsible and shareholders in the company. In May 1976, the official resigned his chairmanship.

The Comptroller stressed in unusually outspoken terms that the Defence Ministry never bothered to ask the official why he withheld the information concerning the commercial connections, and said that the Ministry should not have been asking with a perfunctory check in the first place, when the official requested permission to do the moonlighting.

ESPECIALLY serious findings emerged with regard to the supply of stretchers. Between 1973 and 1976, the entire order was given to one single manufacturer, without a tender, on unsubstantiated evidence that nobody else wanted to make them. Ministry officials made a slovenly appraisal of the manufacturer's calculations, paying him larger advances than were justified and being over-generous with their increments for price increases.

Finally, in March 1976, a genuine tender was issued, and a second manufacturer contracted to make the stretchers at a price 68 per cent lower than the first manufacturer had been getting a year earlier, and 68 per cent less than he was getting just a month earlier.

The bill paid to a contractor for building defences included an item of IL1.15m. for used railway lines, although they could not possibly have cost him more than IL822,000. Moreover, the contractor got a rebate on customs duty for rails which he in fact purchased locally. The account paid to a manufacturer of engines abroad allowed for an annual cost increase of 7 per cent in subsequent re-orders. The Ministry allowed the manufacturer to circumvent this. Although he raised the price of the engine as provided, he increased the price of the crating by 32 per cent.

CONSIDERABLE disorder was found in the section of the Ministry responsible for manufacturing clothing. Since 1974, cloth has been arriving in container ships, often without proper documentation. Five containers which arrived in 1976 were left in the port for six months before their contents were checked and registered. The delay cost the Ministry between \$1,000 and \$2,000 per container.

Some batches of drill cloth which arrived from the U.S. in cartons, were registered according to the quantity stamped on the cartons. It turned out that these often contained more than was marked.

Goods in the clothing manufacture store are recorded on two card indexes kept by hand, but the cards are not numbered, and there was no way of preventing them being switched until the Ministry began preparing a computerized catalogue.

The annual stocktakings were never on time and never complete. In 1976, for instance, when only 90 per cent of the cloth was counted in stocktaking, goods were being shipped in and out while the stocktaking went on, which only caused confusion. An excess of IL461,000 worth of some types of cloth was found, and a shortfall of IL452,000 on others, all due to faulty registration and imprecise definitions of types of cloth.

One of the curious things unearthed in a certain clothing store was 100 crates of raw material for manufacturing electric batteries, bought 20 years ago, and now totally unusable. A decision was taken in 1974 to cull the crates. They are still there.

The Ministry once bought 400,000 pieces of a certain surplus equipment at a cost of 50 cents U.S. each. Eventually, these were found to be superfluous and also unusable. Since 1974, part has been stored in the open and part in a rented store, for which IL36,500 was paid in 1975.

Until January 1977, stores staff had never done any fire-fighting drill, except for the watchmen. In any case, much of the necessary equipment was unusable.

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JORDAN TV (unofficial): 18.10 Jabbar Jaw 18.30 Documentary, 19.00 The Muppet Show 19.30 News in Hebrew, 20.00 News in Arabic, 20.30 Fairchild family, 21.00 Science Report, 21.10 Duchess of Duke Street, 22.00 News in English, 22.15 The City of Angels, 23.00 News, 23.15 The City of Angels, 23.30 News, 23.45 The City of Angels.

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CINEMAS

Tel Aviv 4.30, 7.15, 9.30
Allenby: Qui je l'attrape; Ben Yehuda: The Young Bride (La Nuova Giovane); Chen: Logan's Run; Cinema One: Fear is the Key; Cinema Two: The Tenant, 10, 12.30, 2.30, 4.30, 7.15, 9.30; Dekal: Silent Movie, 7.15, 9.30; Drive-In: The Gumball Rally, 7.00; All the President's Men, 9.30; Esther: I will, I will, I will now; Nat: Nashville, 6.00, 9.00; Gord: Nini; Med: Stretcher Drill; Lina: Bluff; Max: Emily, 4.30, 7.30, 9.30; Mograbi: A Star is Born, 4.00, 9.45, 9.30; Ophir: Fun with Dick and Jane; Ory: Candy; Pasha: The Fortune Cookie, 10, 12, 2, 4, 7.15, 9.30; Peor: Si c'est a retenir (Second Chance); Royal: Expose, 10, 12, 2, 4, 7.30, 9.30; Ramat Aviv: Odd Couple, 7.15, 9.30; Wed: 4.30; Shkaf: Operation Thunderbolt, 4.30, 7.00, 9.30; Tehelet: L'invitation; Tel Aviv: Mister Billion; Zafon: Cousin Cousine; Petah Tikva: Shalom: Operation Thunderbolt, 9.30, 7.00, 9.30; Tza: 8.50 only; Seder Network, 4.30, 7.00, 9.30.
Mardi: Stretcher Drill; Thore: L'alle ou la cuisine, 7.15, 9.15
Ramat Gan: Armon: Marathon Man, 7.15, 9.30; Oren: Hong Kong; Ory: Shkaf: Drill, 4.00, 7.15, 9.30; Oas: Cousin Cousine, 4.00, 7.15, 9.30; Oren: Operation Thunderbolt, 4.00, 7.00, 9.30; Lili: To be or not to be, 7.15, 9.30; Rana: Star Wars, 7.15, 9.30; 4.30 on Wed and Sat; Ramat Gan: The Blue Bird, 7.15, 9.30.
Jerusalem 4.00, 7.00, 9.15
Arnon: At the Races; Eden: Operation Thunderbolt, 4.00, 7.00, 9.15; Edson: Gulliver; Ezer: Shkaf: Dr. 4.00, 7.15, 9.30; Oas: Cousin Cousine, 4.00, 7.15, 9.30; Oren: Operation Thunderbolt, 4.00, 7.00, 9.30; Lili: To be or not to be, 7.15, 9.30; Rana: Star Wars, 7.15, 9.30; 4.30 on Wed and Sat; Ramat Gan: The Blue Bird, 7.15, 9.30.
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1200 kilohertz:
5-8 and 9-9.30 a.m. - Daily broadcast show with news, popular music and interviews.
11-12 p.m. - News, analysis and topical reports.
79 kilohertz:
5-8 a.m. - Daily breakfast show, as above.
9-10 p.m. - VOA magazine, with American, science and cultural news, roundup of news.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE SELECTIONS

English
7.00 (Fourth, Fifth) 15 minutes, including review of Hebrew press
14.30 (Fourth, Fifth) 30 min.
19.30 (Fourth) 5 min.
20.15 (Fourth) 15 min.
22.30 (Fifth) 25 min.
24.00 (Fifth) 30 min.
Yiddish 19.30 (First) 30 min.
Hungarian 19.15 (Fifth) 15 min.
Saturday 19.15 (First) 30 min.
Ramadan 20.30 (First) 15 min.
Basel 19.45 (First) 15 min.
Georgian 19.15 (First, Fifth) 15 min.
Ladino 20.10 (First, Fifth) 15 min.
Magrabi 20.15 (First, Fifth) 15 min.

REGULAR DAILY BROADCASTS

First Programme
10.15-10.30: 11.15-11.30 Programmes for Schools.
13.55 Music programme announced for Schools.
14.15 Stories for children.
15.05 A moment for Hebrew grammar.
17.55 Notes on agriculture.
00.10 Informal discussion.
00.15 Prayer and Mishna reading.
6.10 Gymnastics.
6.55 Programme announcements.
6.59 A moment for Hebrew grammar.
7.53 Driving tips.
9.10 Popular tunes (until 10.00).
10.05 Ecce at Home - songs, interviews on topics assumed to be of interest to women.
12.05 Productive Pace - for workers and employers.
12.50 Hebrew songs.
13.45 Today's Market.
01.05 A moment of poetry.
Army Radio.
0.05 Popular music (until 6.55).
3.58 Prayer.
6.30 Gymnastics.
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10.05 Popular music (until 12.00).
12.05 Collapse of a cheaply built piano: 151.

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ON THE AIR

First Programme

7.07 Morning Concert - L. Mozart: Peasant Wedding; Weinberger: Scherzade; Folia and Fugue; Mozart: Lea Petta Rens; Schubert: Impromptu in A-flat Major (Rebiter); C.P.E. Bach: Concerto in D Minor for Flute; Beethoven: Trio No. 9 in B-flat Major; Archduke: Brahms: Zuckerman-Du Frey; Brahms: Concerto in D Major for Violin, Op. 77.
10.00 Programme announcements.
10.15 Arabic for beginners.
10.35 Radio story.
12.05 (Stereo) Margalit Gafni, Flute; Lena Bondarenko, Violin; Marina Bondarenko, Piano.
Telesound: Sonatina in C Major for Flute, Violin and Piano; Mozart: Sonata in F Major for Flute and Piano; K.15; Foulness: Sonata for Flute and Piano; Martin: Sonata for Flute, Violin and Piano.
13.00 Vaughan Williams: In the Park Country; Bruch: Scottish Fantasy for Violin and Orchestra, Op. 45 (David Oistrakh); Darius: Walk to the Paradise Garden.
15.00 Lesson in spoken Arabic.
15.55 Notes on a new book.
16.30 Music Magazine.
16.30 (Stereo): Recordings of the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra.
18.05 "Which me do you prefer?" Zmira Lutsky and Uri Epstein analyze different interpretations of Schubert: Sonata in B-flat Major for Piano.
20.45 (Stereo): New Sounds, works by Dobrowolsky, Globokar, Maderna, Schoenberg, Christian Wolff, John Cage.
21.30 World of Science.
22.00 Bach: Concerto in A Minor for Harpsichord (George Malcolm); Mozart: Allens for Clarinet and String Quartet; Beethoven: Alexander: Squares, for Baritone and Orchestra; Faure: Quartet No. 1 for Piano and Strings; Mendelssohn: Konzertstück No. 2 for Clarinet, Bassoon and Piano; Dello Joie: Thoughts on Ecclesiastes.
23.58 Programme announcements.

Second Programme

12.30 Israeli songs.
13.05 Songs and news commentary.
14.10 Special requests.
15.05 Light Classical Music.
16.00 Magazine on Science.
17.10 Manny Pe'er's talk and entertainment show.
18.00 Economics and business.
18.45 Sports commentary.
19.00 People and events in the news.
19.47 Bible Reading: Psalms 9, 10.
20.05 Everyman's University.
20.30 Ben-Dor, of the Ben-Gurion University talks about anthropological research.
22.05 Cantorial music.
22.00 On Jews and Judaism.
22.05 Questions and answers in Halacha.
23.05 "Fortune-telling" with Ehud Manor.
00.10 Golden oldies.
Army Radio.
12.05 Special requests.
13.05 Golden oldies.
14.30 Foreign language hit parade (until 17.00).
18.05 Yosef Lapid's talk show.
18.57 Programme announcements.
19.05 Ralph Klein, coach of Tel Aviv Maccabees and members of the team meet with soldiers.
20.05 Far, Far Away with Amalia Rosen.
21.05 Anti-Semitism '77 - an anti-Semitism today.
22.10 Progressive music.
23.00 On Jews and Judaism - music.
00.00 Night birds - songs, chat with Pina Bat-Zvi.

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FROM JERUSALEM

Every Monday to Thursday
Tel Aviv (South): 10.45, 17.42, 18.00, 18.10, 18.20, 18.30, 18.40, 18.50, 19.00, 19.10, 19.20, 19.30, 19.40, 19.50, 20.00, 20.10, 20.20, 20.30, 20.40, 20.50, 21.00, 21.10, 21.20, 21.30, 21.40, 21.50, 22.00, 22.10, 22.20, 22.30, 22.40, 22.50, 23.00, 23.10, 23.20, 23.30, 23.40, 23.50, 24.00, 24.10, 24.20, 24.30, 24.40, 24.50, 25.00, 25.10, 25.20, 25.30, 25.40, 25.50, 26.00, 26.10, 26.20, 26.30, 26.40, 26.50, 27.00, 27.10, 27.20, 27.30, 27.40, 27.50, 28.00, 28.10, 28.20, 28.30, 28.40, 28.50, 29.00, 29.10, 29.20, 29.30, 29.40, 29.50, 30.00, 30.10, 30.20, 30.30, 30.40, 30.50, 31.00, 31.10, 31.20, 31.30, 31.40, 31.50, 32.00, 32.10, 32.20, 32.30, 32.40, 32.50, 33.00, 33.10, 33.20, 33.30, 33.40, 33.50, 34.00, 34.10, 34.20, 34.30, 34.40, 34.50, 35.00, 35.10, 35.20, 35.30, 35.40, 35.50, 36.00, 36.10, 36.20, 36.30, 36.40, 36.50, 37.00, 37.10, 37.20, 37.30, 37.40, 37.50, 38.00, 38.10, 38.20, 38.30, 38.40, 38.50, 39.00, 39.10, 39.20, 39.30, 39.40, 39.50, 40.00, 40.10, 40.20, 40.30, 40.40, 40.50, 41.00, 41.10, 41.20, 41.30, 41.40, 41.50, 42.00, 42.10, 42.20, 42.30, 42.40, 42.50, 43.00, 43.10, 43.20, 43.30, 43.40, 43.50, 44.00, 44.10, 44.20, 44.30, 44.40, 44.50, 45.00, 45.10, 45.20, 45.30, 45.40, 45.50, 46.00, 46.10, 46.20, 46.30, 46.40, 46.50, 47.00, 47.10, 47.20, 47.30, 47.40, 47.50, 48.00, 48.10, 48.20, 48.30, 48.40, 48.50, 49.00, 49.10, 49.20, 49.30, 49.40, 49.50, 50.00, 50.10, 50.20, 50.30, 50.40, 50.50, 51.00, 51.10, 51.20, 51.30, 51.40, 51.50, 52.00, 52.10, 52.20, 52.30, 52.40, 52.50, 53.00, 53.10, 53.20, 53.30, 53.40, 53.50, 54.00, 54.10, 54.20, 54.30, 54.40, 54.50, 55.00, 55.10, 55.20, 55.30, 55.40, 55.50, 56.00, 56.10, 56.20, 56.30, 56.40, 56.50, 57.00, 57.10, 57.20, 57.30, 57.40, 57.50, 58.00, 58.10, 58.20, 58.30, 58.40, 58.50, 59.00, 59.10, 59.20, 59.30, 59.40, 59.50, 60.00, 60.10, 60.20, 60.30, 60.40, 60.50, 61.00, 61.10, 61.20, 61.30, 61.40, 61.50, 62.00, 62.10, 62.20, 62.30, 62.40, 62.50, 63.00, 63.10, 63.20, 63.30, 63.40, 63.50, 64.00, 64.10, 64.20, 64.30, 64.40, 64.50, 65.00, 65.10, 65.20, 65.30, 65.40, 65.50, 66.00, 66.10, 66.20, 66.30, 66.40, 66.50, 67.00, 67.10, 67.20, 67.30, 67.40, 67.50, 68.00, 68.10, 68.20, 68.30, 68.40, 68.50, 69.00, 69.10, 69.20, 69.30, 69.40, 69.50, 70.00, 70.10, 70.20, 70.30, 70.40, 70.50, 71.00, 71.10, 71.20, 71.30, 71.40, 71.50, 72.00, 72.10, 72.20, 72.30, 72.40, 72.50, 73.00, 73.10, 73.20, 73.30, 73.40, 73.50, 74.00, 74.10, 74.20, 74.30, 74.40, 74.50, 75.00, 75.10, 75.20, 75.30, 75.40, 75.50, 76.00, 76.10, 76.20, 76.30, 76.40, 76.50, 77.00, 77.10, 77.20, 77.30, 77.40, 77.50, 78.00, 78.10, 78.20, 78.30, 78.40, 78.50, 79.00, 79.10, 79.20, 79.30, 79.40, 79.50, 80.00, 80.10, 80.20, 80.30, 80.40, 80.50, 81.00, 81.10, 81.20, 81.30, 81.40, 81.50, 82.00, 82.10, 82.20, 82.30, 82.40, 82.50, 83.00, 83.10, 83.20, 83.30, 83.40, 83.50, 84.00, 84.10, 84.20, 84.30, 84.40, 84.50, 85.00, 85.10, 85.20, 85.30, 85.40, 85.50, 86.00, 86.10, 86.20, 86.30, 86.40, 86.50, 87.00, 87.10, 87.20, 87.30, 87.40, 87.50, 88.00, 88.10, 88.20, 88.30, 88.40, 88.50, 89.00, 89.10, 89.20, 89.30, 89.40, 89.50, 90.00, 90.10, 90.20, 90.30, 90.40, 90.50, 91.00, 91.10, 91.20, 91.30, 91.40, 91.50, 92.00, 92.10, 92.20, 92.30, 92.40, 92.50, 93.00, 93.10, 93.20, 93.30, 93.40, 93.50, 94.00, 94.10, 94.20, 94.30, 94.40, 94.50, 95.00, 95.10, 95.20, 95.30, 95.40, 95.50, 96.00, 96.10, 96.20, 96.30, 96.40, 96.50, 97.00, 97.10, 97.20, 97.30, 97.40, 97.50, 98.00, 98.10, 98.20, 98.30, 98.40, 98.50, 99.00, 99.10, 99.20, 99.30, 99.40, 99.50, 100.00, 100.10, 100.20, 100.30, 100.40, 100.50, 101.00, 101.10, 101.20, 101.30, 101.40, 101.50, 102.00, 102.10, 102.20, 102.30, 102.40, 102.50, 103.00, 103.10, 103.20, 103.30, 103.40, 103.50, 104.00, 104.10, 104.20, 104.30, 104.40, 104.50, 105.00, 105.10, 105.20, 105.30, 105.40, 105.50, 106.00, 106.10, 106.20, 106.30, 106.40, 106.50, 107.00, 107.10, 107.20, 107.30, 107.40, 107.50, 108.00, 108.10, 108.20, 108.30, 108.40, 108.50, 109.00, 109.10, 109.20, 109.30, 109.40, 109.50, 110.00, 110.10, 110.20, 110.30, 110.40, 110.50, 111.00, 111.10, 111.20, 111.30, 111.40, 111.50, 112.00, 112.10, 112.20, 112.30, 112.40, 112.50, 113.00, 113.10, 113.20, 113.30, 113.40, 113.50, 114.00, 114.10, 114.20, 114.30, 114.40, 114.50, 115.00, 115.10, 115.20, 1

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27, 1977 • VOL. XLVII, No. 15898

Ritual is not enough

THE STATE COMPTROLLER'S Report, which has been released today, will not be discussed by the outgoing Knesset. Presumably, by the time the next Knesset gets around to an examination of its contents, many of the criticisms listed in the Report will seem to be dated. Our future legislators may therefore feel that there is no use their crying over spilt milk.

Yet the obvious fact that the Comptroller finds it necessary to reprove the government administration, year after year, for much the same kind of shortcomings should alert the Knesset, and the public at large, to the weakness of parliamentary oversight of government operations. It suggests not only that the Knesset itself has insufficient power to control the government, but that it neglects to exercise the power it has.

Particularly disturbing are the documented charges brought by the State Comptroller against the Treasury, the key ministry through which all other departments are ultimately regulated in their most important functions.

It is not merely that the Treasury has all too often failed to measure up to the standards of propriety expected in any sound system of public administration. That may perhaps be excusable in a period of hyper-inflation when financial operations cannot be predicted as confidently, or executed with as much fidelity to the original programme, as in more stable conditions.

What the Report, however, shows is that the Treasury has in some instances knowingly — and perhaps even deliberately — misinformed the Knesset. It presented budget estimates which, at the time when legislative approval was asked for, were already known to be unrealistic. Moreover the Treasury has high-handedly ignored the budget law, and, in addition, has circumvented the Knesset by carrying on large-scale financial operations outside the budget.

The Report also demonstrated an alarming trend — aided and abetted, and certainly acquiesced in, by the Treasury — towards domination of large spheres of economic activity by the three big banks. A very large proportion of the banks' profits, it emerges from the Report, in effect comes from the Treasury, that is from the pockets of taxpayers and foreign donors. Numerous functions which, because almost purely governmental, could have been carried out at a lower cost by the Government itself are transferred to the banks in the name of restraint on the scope of government activity.

Similarly, while ostensibly striving to reduce the number of public employees, the Government gets around these limitations by contracting the services of private agencies.

In 1976 alone the nominal increase of the Government's debt, as a result of linkage, was IL13 billion, and that did not include the extra-budgetary linkage commitments. Although the bulk of current savings, such as those of the pension funds, are also linked, it will be the savers — mostly wage earners and other persons of modest means — who will pay the taxes out of which the inflationary gains of borrowers are to be paid.

To this must be added the tax advantages granted to the self-employed and to companies, not only directly, for example by means of tax benefits to approved enterprises, but also indirectly, through the system by which taxes are collected.

As shown by the Comptroller's Report, fully 87 per cent of the taxes paid by the self-employed is collected through the banks. This is a method of tax farming which is not only profitable for the banks, but also results in the effective reduction of the taxes paid by as much as 20 per cent, compared with the pay-as-you-earn collection system applicable to wage earners.

These are some of the findings about the Treasury, as reported by the State Comptroller. The question now is whether the Report will again be treated as a mere ritual exercise in self-flagellation or whether it will, for once, be held up as a guide for corrective action. The answer lies with the next Knesset — and the next Government.

The Army under fire

DURING THE PAST three-and-a-half years the Israel Defence Forces have undergone a tremendous growth, which involved the assimilation of vast amounts of new equipment. The IDF should rightly have been expected to handle the precious tools of warfare in its possession with exemplary care and prudence. Surely this was one lesson of the Yom Kippur War that could not have been lost on anyone.

The tale of waste, inefficiency and mismanagement disclosed by the State Comptroller would make it appear as if the last war never took place at all.

Perhaps the most perturbing aspect of the findings in the Report concern the obtuseness displayed by top commanders in reacting to them.

The Air Force, for example, is queried about the fact that millions of pounds are spent by officers in needless private flight, at a time when regularly scheduled planes are flying the same routes half empty. The reply is first that the Air Force must be highly mobile — which is self-evident, but also completely irrelevant; and secondly, that such flights — which in some cases cost over IL10,000 per month per officer — are a standard part of a pilot's salary. This, again, must be credited, but why should such a costly practice exist?

The list of disturbing facts unearthed by the Comptroller's investigators is far too long and too familiar. Emergency military stores are often not kept up to the required standard. Highly valuable items are missing from the shelves of numerous units, and some are feared stolen. Bridges and amphibious vehicles are not in working condition.

One regular complaint voiced by army spokesmen has to do with the shortage of manpower. Yet the Report reveals that the army has allowed hundreds of requests by soldiers wishing to remain in service to get caught in red tape so long as to cause applicants to leave in frustration.

The current Report must be viewed with particular gravity precisely because it covers a quiet period in terms of operations.

The real purpose of a national election

The question before the voter, which party he likes, but what kind of government he prefers.

TO A CERTAIN EXTENT, this is probably a legacy of the old, pre-State parties, with which one was expected to identify fully. True enough, in those days people used to join parties for ideological reasons (much more so than today). And once they were members it was usually a case of "my party right or wrong."

Today the thinking citizen knows the faults of his party, and of the other parties. But when he is alone with himself in the polling booth (if not before), he realizes that the choice before him is one of existing alternatives. Of the hundreds of possible issues, he has to select those that seem to him more important than the others and cast his vote accordingly.

The question before him is not whether he likes a certain party, but what kind of government he prefers. Since only two parties have a reasonable chance of leading the country, he has to decide whether he prefers one or the other.

He can, of course, give his vote to any third, fourth or fifth list, which may constitute the "balance of power" party and therefore have the decisive say on the nature of the post-election government coalition. But by doing so, he is in fact delegating to a small party caucus his right to decide about the kind of government he wants.

The major issue of the election will thus be decided after the polling is over, and not by a majority of voters.

but by 10, 20 or even 100 people, who represent 5, 10 or 15 per cent of the electorate.

As for myself, I prefer to make my own decisions — at least when I am given a chance to do so. But apart from any personal preference, it seems that with all the talk of "democracy" now fashionable in Israel, inordinate influence by a minority is the most undemocratic practice of all.

THE FACT that political decisions (not only at election time) are always a choice between given alternatives (and only very seldom between an ideal solution and a step into the abyss), is of course nothing new. Almost 200 years ago, Edmund Burke said that any political decision involves a choice between the unpleasant and the unbearable. That may be a slight exaggeration, but it explains why most of the arguments in the present campaign seem so utterly muddled. When the major discussion is not about the policies that are needed, or possible, but about "change" for change's sake, one tends to lose sight of alternatives.

Now the average Israeli feels that "something" is wrong "somewhere," which should be changed "somehow" by "somebody" in "some way or another." He is quite seriously concerned about all the ills of his society, but he doesn't have the time or

the inclination to enquire more deeply into the reasons or to check the alternatives.

In a recent article in one of our afternoon papers, a leading journalist complained bitterly about the loss of the "old idealism," about the new generation whose only concern is with material well-being, about selfish people who fight for higher wages at the expense of the entire nation, and so on.

He could almost have convinced me — had I not remembered that on every other day of the year the very same man writes stirring articles about the need to change "the system" and to get rid of "old-fashioned" values such as collectivism. In fact, he usually propagates a kind of "liberalism" based on Adam Smith's assumption that a man searching for his own good is automatically contributing to the good of the whole.

NOW I DON'T even think that this was just demagoguery on his part. The man probably believes in what he writes when he writes it. It was probably — no more than a typical example of the confused thinking that goes with catchwords like "change," "system" or "regime."

At the same time there are the less sincere writers and speakers — for example, those responsible for a recent election advert which proposed fighting inflation by cutting government expenditure, and demanded, in

another paragraph, an extension of welfare services, additional children allowances, compulsory free education from pre-kindergarten age, and long school-days for all children between the ages of 6 and 18. But whether the writers and speakers are themselves naive, or simply hold their public to be stupid, the result is the same: they distract public attention from the real alternatives.

The real issues are, of course, much more prosaic, and hardly useful as election slogans. Should Israel conduct the coming political negotiations according to the pre-Yom Kippur War doctrine of preserving the status quo by all means, or should she come forward with more flexible proposals? Should inflation be controlled even at the expense of mass unemployment? Should economic measures be considered only on their own merits or should social equality be taken into account?

The alternatives are too varied, and complex to be listed here. And since none of us can find a party to handle all the questions we would — election propaganda notwithstanding — all we can do is choose between alternative teams of government, according to their stand on major questions of policy.

This means, of course, that for those of us who are aware of all the "ifs" and "maybes" of politics, it will be rather difficult to stop or to see the substantively any particular party's policy. In the final analysis, this is what it all boils down to: a choice between possible alternatives. All the rest only confuses the issue.

Mr. Manito is editor of the *Jerusalem Post*'s monthly "Migdal."

Dry Bones



POSTSCRIPTS

THE CONNECTION between ping pong and politics goes back further than the restoration of American-Chinese relations.

In a London "Observer" article, Michael Davies recalls that table tennis and left-wing politics have been linked almost from the beginning of the game. He recalls that it was invented in the 1880's, became a society craze and then died.

The revival of the game some 50 years ago was due to one man — and here comes a Jewish connection. That man, now aged 72, is Ivor Montagu, son of the distinguished Anglo-Jewish banking and political family. In his time, Montagu has been a journalist, film-maker and zoologist. But his two overriding aims in life, Davies notes, have been the advancement of table tennis and the advancement of Communism. He holds the Lenin Peace Prize and the Mongolian Peace Prize.

Montagu became a left-winger while still a boy at Westminster School. Before he was 15, he was distributing left-wing pamphlets. In his leisure time he played ping pong with a school-friend on the same Queen Anne table in his family's country house at which his uncle Edwin Montagu (one-time Secretary of State for India and a vehement opponent of the Balfour Declaration) used to play endless games of bridge with the then British Foreign Secretary Sir Edward Grey.

He thought of ping pong as a proletarian game which would keep the masses entertained. It was cheap and could be played anywhere. When attending a world peace congress in Peking in the early 1950's, Montagu was asked to give the Chinese some advice on the game. "They weren't much good," was his comment at the time. They have improved since and Montagu's criticism may have put them on their victorious path.

Our Israeli contestant at the World Table Tennis Championship in England made a fairly good showing. Perhaps Montagu might like to coach him further and thus help Israel-Chinese relations.

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READERS' LETTERS

ATTACK ON GERMAN EMBASSY

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — Sensible people all over the world react with horror and disgust when they learn of acts of violence and terrorism.

Newspapers all over the world reported the attack of April 14 on the German Embassy in Israel. As President of the Jewish Community in Munich and a historian of Nazi persecution of Jews, I am not suspect of whitewashing Nazi

RELATIONS WITH THE SOVIET UNION

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — It cannot be that Israelis will quietly agree to resume the diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union without examining the moral implications and practical dangers of such a move.

Are Israelis going to forget that Jews are still held captive in the U.S.S.R.; that Jews who have been declared Israeli citizens by the Israeli Government, although they

still live in Russia, are being tortured, drugged and jailed; that the Soviet Union brazenly helps the Arabs to annihilate us; that the brothers, fathers, and husbands of so many Israelis were killed by Russian weapons; that they claim we are racists and imperialists? That drinking together at a diplomatic party will not change their attitude and their propaganda?

DEBORAH FROHMAN
Jerusalem

THE SEAMEN'S STRIKE

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — Among the many harmful strikes that plagued our country, I find the one of the Sea Officers' Union the most unjustified, dastardly stab-in-the-back by a group of already over-privileged elite, taking advantage of the present backbone-lacking leadership of our country.

The Sea Officers are partly paid in foreign currency (not like the other

million or so working people), they can purchase, under government subsidies, cheaper in foreign ports all over the world, so a slight increase in pay does not justify such a terrible blow to our country's already tottering economy. It's we, the other taxpayers, who have to shoulder the increasing burden.

J. LEVINE
Haifa

BRITISH SETTLERS ASSOCIATION

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — With reference to your report "Foreign currency laws turn olim into yordim" (April 19), may I point out that the annual conference was of the British Settlers' Association, the Hitachdut Olet Britannia.

PALESTINIAN NATIONALITY

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — In his erudite article on "Palestinian claims to statehood" (April 18), Professor Feinberg seems to have missed the point of "Anatomy of a slogan" (April 6). My point was that only since 1975, who was aware of the fact that the territories were held by Israel based on the assumption of a distinct Palestinian nationality, and that this stand may well have been advanced for tactical reasons. Incidentally, on the same date as my article appeared, The Jerusalem Post reported a statement of Zohar Mordechai, a leader of the Balaka group of the PLO, that the claim to Palestinian nationality was a tactical one and that "there was no difference" between Jordanians, Palestinians, Syrians, and Lebanese; we are all part of one nation. This statement, which only corroborates my thesis, is shortcoming.

Professor Feinberg rightly doubts the finding in whether a "third" Palestinian State is a "desirable." May I suggest that those who are refusing to question the genuineness and of a Palestinian nationality makes it possibly doubly difficult to withstand the pressures for a third, Palestinian State.

BENJAMIN AZARON is the co-editor of the *Jerusalem Post*.

FRIENDS
TON BESTMAN (21), of 67 Oshog Street, Ilive S/L Lagos, Nigeria, is very interested in our country and would like to correspond with you. He is a DMC attack.

JOHANNES VAN YUBEN (28), of Wilkes Court, Coram Street, London, W.C.2, is a South African living in London who would like to correspond with Israel. He is interested in theatre, cinema and literature.

We, the undersigned people from industry, tourism, export, finance, banking, insurance and the free professions, have decided to support the Alignment List for the Knesset.

We support a policy which made a pluralist economy possible and encouraged initiative in all sectors.

We support the central factor of this policy which enabled the Israel economy to participate in the market of the Free World and which guarantees a continuation of growth and expansion.

We would like to see the achievements in agriculture, industry and tourism — continue.

David Oren — Chairman, Netanya Hotels Association
Mordechai Ben Arie — Managing Director, El Al
Shmuel Golomb — Managing Director, Israel Association of Life Insurance Companies
Yehuda Gil — Managing Director, Industrial Development Bank
David Hermann — Advocate
Israel Tomashevsky — Managing Director, Rotam Insurance Co. Ltd.
Zvi Yaffe — Advocate
Yasacov Cohen — Managing Director, Israel Insurance Institute
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